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McCain pulls ahead of Obama: Poll

U.S. A new national poll shows Republican John McCain has taken the lead from Barack Obama in the presidential race. The USA Today-Gallup Poll shows McCain now ahead, 50 per cent to 46 per cent. The survey was taken from last Friday to Sunday, after the Republican National Convention. Obama had a seven-point advantage following the Democratic National Convention in Denver the week before. The addition of Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin to the Republican ticket prompted 29 per cent of the voters surveyed to say they were more likely to vote for McCain.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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- Lawrence Martin looks south of border
- Dion all guns blazing
- Harper's middle path
- Oil's not well with New Democrats
- May rips all boys' club

Workology pg 20

Nanny's little tax helper

Health pg 23

Pampered and pregnant

ShareYourViews
torontoletters@metronews.ca

Charity gala

Moment with Matt

ENZA SUPERMODEL/METRO TORONTO

Hollywood superstar Matt Damon shares a smile with a group of children yesterday prior to the annual gala for OneXOne, a charitable organization that provides aid to children in need around the world. The event, which took place at Maple Leaf Gardens, was part of the Toronto International Film Festival extravaganza. **For more TIFF coverage, see pullout.**

Miller picks city, not candidates

Mayor wants parties to back urban centres

Toronto's mayor isn't endorsing a candidate or party in the federal election, unlike two years ago.

David Miller said yesterday he sees this election as a chance for all four federal parties to set out a vision for Canada that supports its major cities. He says the state of Canadian cities is a national concern that goes beyond party politics.

"I'm going to speak out in this election for issues that affect Torontonians, because I think it shouldn't be a partisan issue. I think every single party should support the future of Canada, and you'll secure that future by investing in cities," he said.

Miller's decision not to back a candidate or party is a switch from 2006 when he endorsed John Godfrey, the former Liberal MP for Don Valley West, who is stepping down.

Miller said he supported Godfrey because the government of former prime minister Paul Martin sent billions of dollars in funding to Toronto when Godfrey was minister.

Yesterday, the mayor urged voters in Toronto and other big Canadian centres to ask candidates canvassing door-to-door this election tough questions about their plans for investments in cities.

"Are they going to invest in public transit? ... Are they going to invest in our aging infrastructure in a permanent way that ensures cities are going to succeed?"

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ED DRASS ON TRANSIT AND ELECTION, P. 4

Election 2008

"Are they going to invest in our public transit? ... Are they going to invest in our aging infrastructure?"
Toronto Mayor David Miller

McGuinty rallies for Ontario

Election 2008

Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion's election campaign platform won't be endorsed by the Liberal premier of Canada's largest province, Dalton McGuinty said yesterday as he vowed to press all federal party leaders for a better financial deal for Ontario.

Dalton McGuinty

With 106 of the 308 seats in the House of Commons, it's time Ontario "exploited" its clout to "fight for fairness" during the campaign for the Oct. 14 vote, McGuinty said as he responded to Sunday's election call.

"Because over one-third of Canada's MPs are elected here in Ontario, we Ontarians have a great deal of influence over which party forms a government and who gets to be prime minister," he said.

"I'll be asking all the party leaders how they intend to address the issue of fairness for Ontario, and I'm asking Ontarians to do the same with their local candidates, to raise the issue at the door, at the debates and in letters."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Shortchanged?

- Ontario is shortchanged billions of dollars each year by Ottawa, said McGuinty, who complained that an Ontario worker who loses their job gets $4,600 less in benefits than laid-off workers in the rest of Canada.

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Creba accused pleads not guilty
The first young man to stand trial for the fatal shooting of 15-year-old Jane Creba pleaded not guilty to one count of second-degree murder, six counts attempted murder and weapons charges yesterday in the Superior Court of Justice. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Don't look back in anger

A 47-year-old concert-goer from Pickering has been charged with assault after Noel Gallagher, left, of the British band Oasis was "cold-cocked" onstage in front of 25,000 fans Sunday night at the Virgin Festival on the Toronto Islands. Daniel Sullivan, 47, was arrested after the incident. He appeared in court yesterday where he was ordered to stay away from the band. He is scheduled to reappear in court on Oct. 24. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Tomorrow's Metro

Automotive

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What's online today.

Watch as coalition troops salute the 97th Canadian soldier to be killed in Afghanistan, and check out MetroTube of the day to see Oasis' Noel Gallagher get assaulted onstage during Toronto's Virgin Festival.

Read as Allan Small preaches patience in Investment Perspective

Lotteries

Ontario Pick 3	850
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Daily Keno	5, 7, 8, 11, 13, 20, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 34, 37, 43, 45, 49, 50, 55, 57, 69

These results are not official.

News in brief

LOOTING Shawn James, 36, has been arrested for allegedly looting the Secord Avenue apartment complex where 900 people were displaced after a hydro vault explosion this summer. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Informant ID protected

Ground rules set as 'fink fund scandal' trial begins

An unusual handwritten note on the courtroom door sets out the ground rules: By judge's order, no one is to publish anything that would reveal "or tend to reveal" the identity of confidential informant CI-186 or any other "C.I.'s" during the course of the trial.

The trial that began yesterday is a $4.5-million malicious prosecution case, filed five years ago by three Toronto police officers — one of them now retired — cleared of criminal wrongdoing in 2001 after the Crown withdrew charges of breach of trust, uttering, fraud and forgery.

The charges related to the alleged skimming of informant money. The case was widely known as the "fink fund scandal."

Case collapsed

- The case against the three officers collapsed when one of the main witnesses — an informant known as CI-186 — recanted his story and refused to testify at the officers' preliminary hearing.

The police investigation began in 1999 when a routine audit of the force's repeat offender squad turned up discrepancies in the use of money set aside by the police to pay informants.

Named in the lawsuit are Toronto Police Service internal affairs investigators, the Toronto Police Services Board and prosecutors with the Ontario attorney general's office.

The officers — Rick Franklin, Wayne Frye and Gordon Ramsay — claim internal affairs investigators acted "outside of the scope of their authority" and that prosecutors "failed to take any reasonable steps" to ensure the accuracy of the information they were given about the case against them. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

More chill time for councillors

Toronto city councillors could soon have a much longer summer break — almost all of July and August.

Under a proposed meeting schedule to be considered by council later this month, city council wouldn't hold its usual cycle of meetings in July.

Instead, business dealt with by committee in June would be handled at a council meeting July 6 and 7. Council wouldn't meet again until Sept. 30 and Oct. 1.

Debates

- July's council business was hefty this year, including debate on a new expense policy for councillors, tearing down a section of the Gardiner Expressway, and tax breaks for the Woodbine development project.

Deputy Mayor Joe Pantalone said the rationale is to ensure senior staff and politicians aren't off at the same time, as was the case in the aftermath of the Aug. 10 explosion at Sunrise Propane. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Biker's bunker may go on the market

Sometime in the not-so-distant future, the province of Ontario could be shopping for a buyer for a longtime biker clubhouse in Oshawa.

The modest bungalow that served as headquarters for the Hells Angels Oshawa chapter is now the property of the province, after a ruling by the Ontario Superior Court of Justice last week declared it an "instrument of unlawful activity."

Attorney General Chris Bentley said yesterday it's too early to start drafting a "for sale" ad for the fortified clubhouse on Ortono Avenue near Highway 401, that has housed biker gangs for four decades.

Some $11,000 that was found squirreled away in the building's walls has already been deposited in a fund for victims of crime. If the clubhouse is sold, the proceeds will go there as well, Bentley said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Coroner Dr. Alexander Jones and police officers inspect the scene yesterday near Eglinton Avenue West and Keele Street after a man was shot dead.

Man shot dead in broad daylight

Police are urging witnesses to come forward after a man was shot and killed in broad daylight near a busy bus stop in the city's west end.

Residents of the area, near Keele Street and Eglinton Avenue West, called police around 2:45 p.m. yesterday after hearing gunshots.

Officers found the victim, a man in his late teens or early 20s, lying in the grass "with obvious trauma," said homicide squad Det.-Sgt. Peter Moreira. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

"This didn't occur in a back alley, it occurred in the middle of the street. We know people were out and about at the time of the shooting.
Det.-Sgt. Peter Moreira

As of late last night, police hadn't identified the victim, despite a crowd of people at the scene who described themselves as friends of the deceased. Moreira said some witnesses would not speak to police, and cited difficulties in contacting the victim's next-of-kin.

"This didn't occur in a back alley, it occurred in the middle of the street," the detective said. "We know people were out and about at the time of the shooting." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

CLEANUP Hissing sounds could be heard from the Sunrise Propane explosion site yesterday as cleanup crews opened valves to release pressure from up to 1,000 non-propane tanks. "We'll be doing this from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every day until (the job) is done," city spokesperson Kevin Sack said at a stretch of yellow police tape. "It will take at least seven to 10 days." Their lids could pop off, he said, which is why crews were releasing the pressure. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Police probe stabbing of college student

Police are looking for leads as they investigate the stabbing of a college student in Oshawa Sunday. The 19-year-old man was at a large house party near Dalhousie Crescent. He was taken to hospital, treated for non-life-threatening injuries and released. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Will parties get moving on GTA?

InTransit

Ed Drass

transit@eddrass.com

Should GTA commuters expect any change to come out of the federal election on Oct. 14?

We may see how badly the Conservatives, Liberals, New Democrats and Greens desire GTA electoral seats by their statements during the two weeks prior to election day. On Sept. 26, the planning agency Metrolinx will officially table its draft Regional Transportation Plan. The "RTP" is going to require billions of dollars from Ottawa — and the federal parties may find themselves pressured to make specific commitments.

However, supporting the construction of future transit lines is not going to provide quick relief aboard buses and trains that are crowded today. Will our political hopefuls promise any measures to substantially affect the GTA transport network in the short term?

Election 2008

After the 2006 election the Tories delivered on a pledge to give tax credits for transit passes, but it's hard to say whether this was responsible for recent increases in bus and train ridership. Gas prices may have had a greater impact.

New GO trains or subway lines can't be built overnight, but the federal government does have the power to change habits through the tax system. Suppose the goal was to convince car drivers to take transit to work — say at least once a week? Substantial tax incentives could push many to switch but the province and municipalities must agree. A whole lot of buses would be needed — right away — while existing lanes on highways and streets might have to be reserved for them.

Tell us what you want to hear about with regards to transit during this election. Visit metronews.ca/intransit to comment.

On the GO

- As of yesterday GO is running a longer, 12-car weekday train on the Lakeshore West line from Hamilton to Union at 7:04 a.m. and from Union to Hamilton at 5:34 p.m.

Quick Tip

Q: Do any parking lots at TTC stations still have space for cars?

Tip: TTC lots average almost 100 per cent usage, meaning practically no spots are available at 9 a.m. In 2007, the following lots had some spare capacity — although thanks to higher gas prices this may no longer be the case: Lawrence East and Ellesmere on the Scarborough RT, Warden, Eglinton West and Keele.

Ed Drass has a degree in urban studies from York University and regularly rides transit in the GTA.

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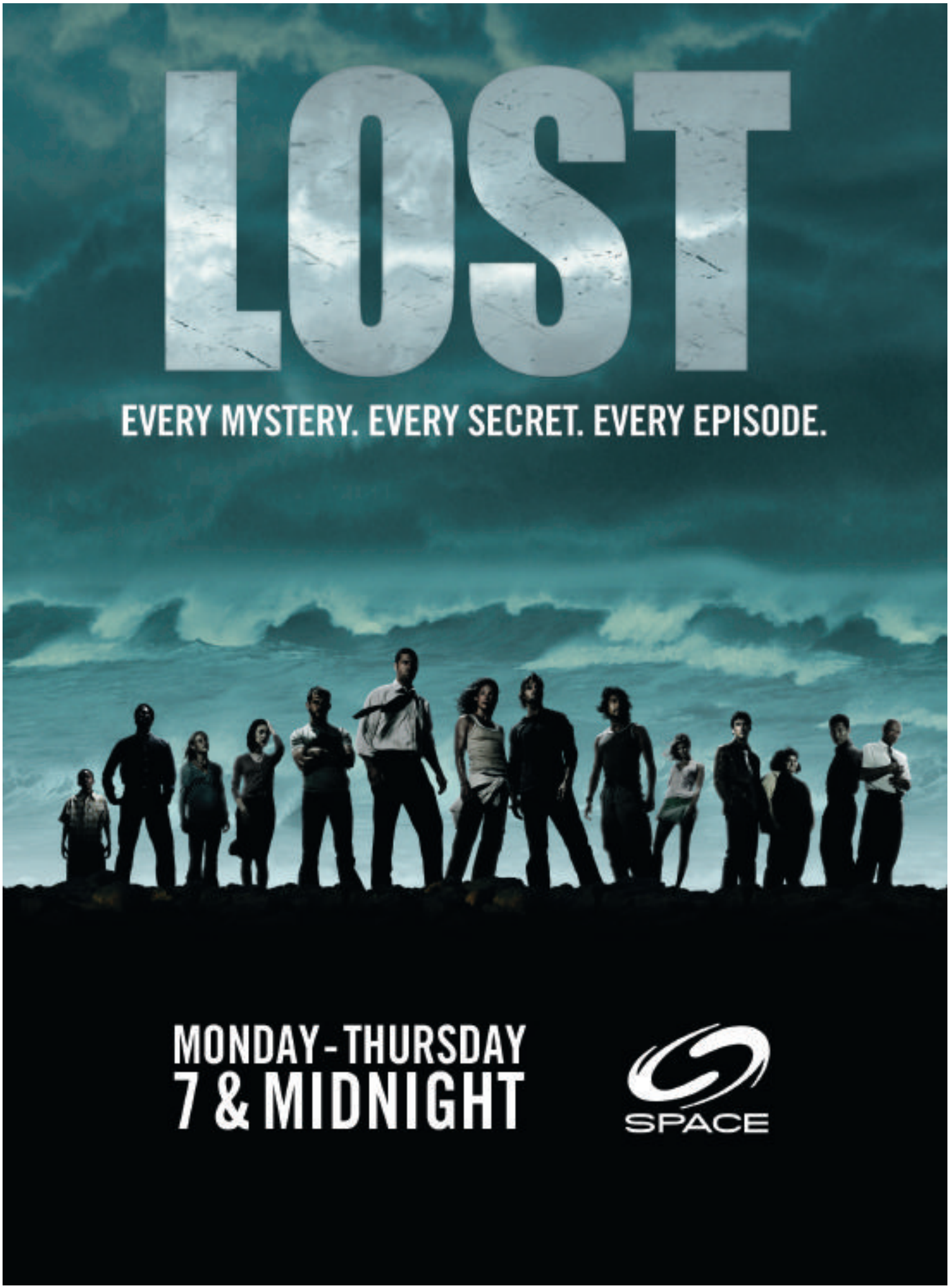
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Ex-privacy watchdog on trial

Former privacy commissioner George Radwanski failed to report a $35,000 loan he got from his chief of staff in 2001, a court was told yesterday. Radwanski and his former top aide, Arthur Lamarche, are on trial in Ontario Superior Court charged with fraud and breach of trust. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Aboriginals reject canal compensation

A $26-million federal offer to compensate Six Nations communities for the flooding of their lands to build the Welland Canal almost two centuries ago is inadequate, the Aboriginals said yesterday. The Haudenosaunee Six Nations said Ottawa had provided no rationale for its financial proposal given that independent evaluators had pegged the loss at between $500 million and $1.1 billion. "I'm disappointed with the hard stance that the federal government is taking," Chief Allen MacNaughton, left, said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Foreign grads in fix

Immigration program leaves many without OHIP coverage

A technical glitch involving a new immigration program to retain foreign students with Canadian credentials has left international graduates working in Ontario without OHIP coverage.

The post-graduation work permit program, launched in April by Immigration Canada, eased the restrictions on work permits to foreign graduates of Canadian universities and colleges by extending their work visas from one to three years — an attempt to encourage talent with Canadian qualifications to stay in the country.

Instead of being tied to a specific Canadian employer in their field, graduates now get an "open" permit allowing them to work at any job with no advance offer or specific employer. Thus an employer's name no longer appears in the permit.

High numbers

- According to Citizenship and Immigration Canada, 63,673 international students came here last year and 11,000 post-graduate employment work permits were issued.

The problem is the province, in determining Ontario Health Insurance Plan coverage, requires foreign workers to hold a valid work visa that "names a Canadian employer situated in Ontario and your prospective occupation, and is valid for at least six months."

Ontario health ministry spokesperson Mark Nesbitt said the ministry is aware of the problem and individual applications by people on the post-graduation work permits are being reviewed on a case-by-case basis. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Banned drivers keep coming back on road

From her apartment overlooking a Ministry of Transportation driver's centre, Gloria O'Neill seems to mock the system that has tried countless times to keep her off the road.

The Toronto woman has been involved in at least 15 collisions, often in rented or borrowed cars. Her driver's licence was suspended as far back as 1978, when she was just 21. In 1984, it was suspended again.

Still forbidden to drive, she got a new licence under a different name. When that, too, was suspended, she got a third.

Five years ago, she dragged a pedestrian to his death in a crosswalk.

Every year, thousands of people whose licences have been suspended or revoked ignore the penalty and drive.

The OPP alone caught more than 5,800 banned drivers behind the wheel last year, said Cam Woolley, a well-known traffic expert recently retired from the force. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Would you employ a consultant to help get your child into nursery school?

Growing Minds Week

Find out how far parents are willing to go during *Growing Minds Week* on TVO.

September 14 to 20 starting at 7pm.

Check your local listings for details.

tvo
makes you think

Ransom sought for journalist

SOMALIA There has been a ransom demand for a freelance Canadian journalist and her colleagues who were kidnapped in Somalia two weeks ago, an organization that defends media freedom confirmed yesterday.

Canadian Amanda Lindhout, 27, along with Australian Nigel Brennan and Somali reporter Abdifatah Mohammed Elmi, who served as their translator, were grabbed Aug. 23 by gunmen.

Katherine Borlongan, executive director of Reporters Without Borders in Montreal, said the organization received confirmation that the kidnappers are seeking $2.5 million US for return of the captives. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Comrades honour fallen soldier

The death of another Canadian soldier so close to the end of his tour is a "sombre reminder" that troops must remain "vigilant and stalwart" in their mission, battlegroup commander Lt.-Col. Dave Corbould said yesterday following a sunset ramp ceremony for the fallen soldier.

Thousands of soldiers lined the tarmac in what has become a much too familiar process for this rotation of troops in Afghanistan to salute Sgt. Scott Shipway who died Sunday in a roadside bomb attack on his armoured vehicle in the Panjwaii district of Kandahar. Seven other soldiers suffered minor injuries in the blast.

The military has not released Shipway's age. The father of two was killed mere days away from going home.

DND HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Military pallbearers carry the remains of Sgt. Scott Shipway yesterday during the ramp ceremony at Kandahar airfield in Afghanistan. Shipway was killed in a roadside bomb attack Sunday.

Following the ceremony, Corbould said efforts to mitigate casualties by thoroughly reviewing each incident are ongoing as Canadian troops seek to "stay one step ahead of the enemy." THE CANADIAN PRESS

OnlineVideos
metronews.ca

News in brief

RETURN A taekwondo master who has acknowledged taking part in a failed plot to assassinate a former South Korean president in Canada at the direction of North Korea returned home to the South yesterday after decades overseas. Choi Jung-hwa, who once lived in Mississauga, hired two agents to shoot president Chun Doo-hwan during a 1982 visit to Canada, according to Oh Chang-jin, an aide to Choi.

LISTERIOSIS Health officials are investigating the death of an elderly New Brunswick woman who had listeriosis. Dr. Eilish Cleary, New Brunswick's acting chief medical officer of health, said yesterday the woman died recently in hospital. Cleary said it's too early to say whether the woman died of listeriosis or whether the strain of the bacteria she had matches the strain involved in the national outbreak. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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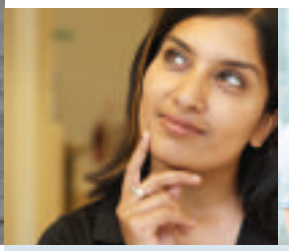

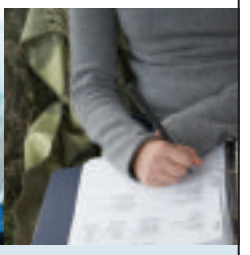

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Election 2008

Double disaster for liberals

Palin's popularity provides Republican surge south of the border

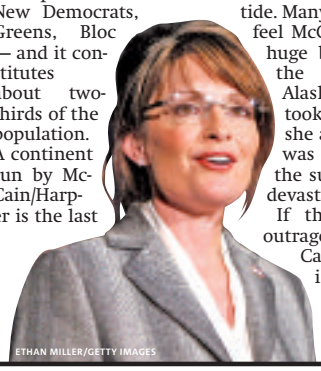
NationalReport

It's nightmare time for Canadian liberals. They're looking at a potential disaster, not only here where trends show the Harper Conservatives moving toward a majority, but also in the United States, where a bible-thumping, gun-toting, war-loving hot mother is aborting, so to speak, the Democrats' chances of taking the White House.

It may be short-lived, but so far the Sarah Palin veep choice by John McCain is providing the Republicans with the surge they so desired. For the first time in months they now lead the Democrats in the polls.

It was just a while back when Barack Obama had Canadian liberals all aglow over what looked to be a certain takeover of the presidency.

Polls have shown Canadians favour Obama by a whopping 3-to-1 or 4-to-1 margin over the Republicans. It stands to reason. Canada is predominantly a country of the centre-left. Combine the support of the soft centre and left-side parties — Liberals, New Democrats, Greens, Bloc — and it constitutes about two-thirds of the population. A continent run by McCain/Harper is the last thing they want.


ETHAN MILLER/GETTY IMAGES

Sarah Palin

South of the border, Palin's resoundingly effective speech at the Republican convention turned the tide. Many were starting to feel McCain had make a huge blunder — until the inexperienced Alaskan governor took the podium. But she allayed fears. She was poised and, on the subject of Obama, devastatingly acerbic. If there is feminist outrage over her pre-Cambrian views it isn't manifesting itself. Why isn't Hillary Clinton ripping her to pieces? Will feminists set aside their core beliefs just because Palin is of their gender?

In an election as important as the American presidency, gender is important, but far more important is the candidate's beliefs.

While it's about damn time another woman is on a presidential ticket, Palin borders on being a zealot. She is an ideological affront to the majority of Canadians.

Lawrence Martin is a Globe and Mail correspondent and author who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.

Conservatives

Harper appeals to middle class

B.C. Prime Minister Stephen Harper is using a forceful appeal to the middle class — and a targeted outreach to ethnic communities — to break into Canada's big cities, the long-held Liberal bastions.

Harper took his campaign strategy into the kitchen of a suburban Vancouver home yesterday and touted his party's help for middle-class families.

Harper noted Conservatives already do well in cities such as Calgary, Edmonton and Ottawa and predicted it was only a matter of time before they enjoy similar success in Vancouver, Montreal and Toronto. During his campaign stop, he charged that a Liberal government would jeopardize the gains given to Canadian families by his government, such as the child benefit.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Dion takes aim at gun control

With the site of a gunman's murderous rampage as a backdrop, Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion promised to strengthen gun laws to ensure that military assault weapons are banned.

"A new Liberal government will make our cities, our communities, and our schools safer by getting military assault weapons off our streets," Dion said at Dawson College in Montreal.

To talk about gun control, Dion came to the school where, in 2006, Kimveer Gill fatally shot student Anastasia De Sousa and wounded more than a dozen others before killing himself.

"Military assault weapons have no connection to hunting or sport shooting, and serve absolutely no purpose in our society. No one outside of the military needs these weapons and we would all be safer without them in Canada," Dion said.

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sarah De Sousa, sister of Anastasia De Sousa who was killed at Dawson College, shakes hands with Stéphane Dion yesterday outside the school during a campaign stop in Montreal.

Dion added that semi-automatic rifles with a legitimate connection to hunting or sport shooting would not be included in the prohibition.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

New Democrats

Layton concerned with oilsands

ENVIRONMENT NDP Leader Jack Layton took his campaign to the north yesterday, saying he wants to alert Canadians to the environmental dangers posed by oilsands production.

There is a growing concern in the north that the huge oilsands production in Alberta is polluting both the air and the water. Some northern native communities have even blamed elevated cancer rates on the fouling of their water downstream from Fort McMurray, Alta.

Layton told a group of about 75 people yesterday that all Canadians need to know about the potential for environmental disaster in communities whose members once could drink from almost every creek, river and lake.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Greens

Elizabeth May

May shut out of debates

TELEVISION Shut out of the national leaders' election debates, Green party Leader Elizabeth May says she'll sue to reverse what she called a sexist, anti-democratic decision by her political rivals and big TV broadcasters.

"Day 2 of the federal election campaign and democracy is taking a nose-dive," May said.

"This is anti-democratic, closed-door, back-room decision making by four national party leaders who are all men, and five television executives who are all men, to keep out the one woman leader of a federal political party and I don't think many Canadians will think that was fair," May told a media conference after learning of the decision via press release. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

SOVEREIGNTY Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe says federalists can vote safely for his party without supporting Quebec sovereignty. Duceppe says sovereignty will be decided in Quebec, not in Ottawa where the Bloc works. The Bloc leader told reporters there's nothing strange about his party courting federalists.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

35 days remain until the 2008 Canadian federal election

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Explosions injure 12 in Pakistan

Several explosions, reportedly caused by missile strikes, rocked the Miran Shah area in Pakistan's troubled northwest yesterday, injuring at least 12 people. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Ike makes for Gulf

The National Hurricane Center in Miami says hurricane Ike has weakened to a Category 1 storm. The storm's centre is expected to hit the Gulf of Mexico by tomorrow night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

O.J. jury selection begins

Nearly a year after O.J. Simpson walked into a casino hotel room intent on reclaiming some sports memorabilia, he and his lawyers walked into a courthouse yesterday to pick jurors for his robbery-kidnapping trial.

After a morning hearing on remaining pretrial matters, prospective jurors were led into the courtroom and given an overview of the case, including the charges against Simpson and co-defendant Clarence (C.J.) Stewart and the names of potential witnesses.

Judge Jackie Glass rejected a request by the defence to be allowed to ask potential jurors if they consider the fallen NFL star, actor and advertising pitchman a murderer.

"My determination is no, we are not going there," Glass said, noting that questionnaires filled out by prospects had asked whether they were familiar with Simpson's other trials and the verdicts in them.

Simpson lawyer Yale Galanter reminded the potential jurors that his client had pleaded not guilty.

"At no time has he committed anything wrong, and that's what this is all about," Galanter said.

Simpson and Stewart, his 54-year-old golfing buddy, have both pleaded not guilty to 12 charges stemming from an encounter with two sports collectibles dealers peddling Simpson memorabilia at a Las Vegas hotel-casino last September.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOHN LOCHER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

O.J. Simpson and his attorney Gabriel Grasso, left, are shown yesterday on the first day of jury selection for Simpson's trial in Las Vegas. Simpson faces 12 charges.

Weekend woes

- Simpson was pulled over by police this weekend after someone at a gas station claimed that he appeared to be intoxicated. Highway troopers said that there was no evidence of alcohol.

Outer space junk boosts danger for shuttle flight

SPACE Next month's shuttle flight to the Hubble Space Telescope faces an increased risk of getting hit by space junk because it will be in a higher, more littered orbit than usual, NASA announced yesterday.

Managers at NASA's highest levels will need to sign off on the mission because of the increased risk.

New number-crunching puts the odds of a catastrophic strike by orbital debris including bits of space junk at about 1-in-185 during Atlantis's upcoming mission to Hubble.

That compares to 1-in-300 odds for a shuttle flight to the International Space Station, shuttle program director John Shannon said yesterday.

Hubble is at a considerably higher and dirtier orbit, so to speak, than the space station — 560 kilometres versus just over 320 kilometres. That extra altitude will expose Atlantis to more pieces of space junk, any of which could slam into the shuttle.

Space debris, however, has not caused significant damage to Hubble since its launch in 1990, said Preston Burch, NASA's Hubble program manager.

NASA's usual limit is a 1-in-200 chance of a catastrophic hit by space junk. While that's an arbitrary baseline, anything greater than that must be considered at the highest levels of NASA, Shannon said at a news conference. Flight reviews will be held later this week and again, with top-level executives, later this month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Orbiting threat

- Orbital debris is the newest, biggest threat to an orbiting space shuttle, surpassing even the liftoff dangers of the main engines and booster rockets, and the always-dangerous re-entry, Shannon said.

Woman, 59, gives birth to triplets

BABIES Hospital officials in France say a 59-year-old woman has given birth to triplets after going abroad to get donated eggs.

An official at the Paris public hospital network said yesterday the woman gave birth on the weekend by caesarean section.

The two boys and a girl weighed between four pounds nine ounces and five pounds five ounces and measured between 18.1 and 18.5 inches long.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Men convicted of U.K. terrorist conspiracy

BOMBING A British jury found three men guilty yesterday of conspiracy to murder in a terrorist bombing campaign, but could not find enough evidence to convict them of a plot to blow up transatlantic airliners.

Prosecutors said they would seek a retrial of the three men, plus four others on whom the jury was unable to reach verdicts over the same charges.

A jury found Abdulla Ahmed Ali, Assad Sarwar and Tanvir Hussain guilty of conspiracy to murder by trying to make a bomb out of hydrogen peroxide.

The jury failed to reach verdicts on charges against four other defendants: Ibrahim Savant, Arafat Waheed Khan, Waheed Zaman and Umar Islam.

An eighth man, Mohammed Gulzar, was found not guilty.

The jury also was unable to reach a verdict on prosecutors' claims that Ali intended to target passenger jets flying from London to major North American cities with suicide attacks.

Prosecutor Peter Wright said during the trial that the men planned to attack Air Canada flights to Montreal and Toronto, as well as flights by United Airlines and American Airlines.

Prosecutors say the men had stockpiled enough hydrogen peroxide to create 20 liquid bombs, although they did not create any viable explosives. The judge said sentencing would be at a later date.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Al Qaeda tape airs

TERRORISM Al Qaeda marked the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks with a 90-minute video message yesterday summarizing the state of jihad, or holy war, around the world.

Short message excerpts, which slammed Iran for collaborating with the United States, were aired on Al-Jazeera.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

GEORGIA European monitors will deploy to regions surrounding South Ossetia and Abkhazia by next month and Russian troops will pull out after that, President Dmitry Medvedev said yesterday. After speaking with French President Nicolas Sarkozy, Medvedev said 200 EU monitors will be deployed no later than Oct. 1.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Bell having a laptop just got better

GM recalls HHR SUVs to fix storage bin

General Motors has recalled 314,048 Chevrolet HHR sport utility vehicles —17,626 from non-U.S. markets, mostly in Canada — to fix a storage bin door that failed to remain closed during government testing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RIM accused of poaching

Motorola sues BlackBerry maker

Motorola is suing BlackBerry-maker Research In Motion for allegedly pilfering its employee ranks, the second time in three months it has turned to the courts to stifle competitive threats posed by departing workers.

The troubled handset-maker, which has failed to match the success of earlier models such as the Razr flip phone, appears to be having a tough time hanging on to key people as the battle for the booming smartphone market heats up between RIM, Apple Inc., Nokia Oyj and others.

Motorola claims in a lawsuit filed in the United States that Waterloo-based RIM has targeted at least 40 Motorola employees, who can't work for a competitor without revealing trade secrets, despite an agreement between the two rivals that was signed earlier this year.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Skills

- The suit alleges the Motorola employees targeted by RIM were ones with skills in touch-screen devices.
- RIM is believed to be working on its own touch-screen model, dubbed Thunder, to be released later this year.

Iran, Libya want OPEC output cut

MEETING Senior oil officials from Iran and Libya said yesterday there is too much crude oil on the market. But the United Arab Emirates said OPEC's policy of keeping the oil market "well supplied" has not changed.

OPEC oil ministers will decide today whether to reduce production or keep it steady. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In brief

HEARING The Ontario Energy Board has begun hearings on how Ontario should spend $60 billion over 20 years to upgrade the electricity system.

RETAIL Canadian Tire has sold eight retail properties to Canadian Real Estate Investment Trust for $137.3 million, and three to Charter Real Estate Investment Trust for $27.3 million. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Your Money

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Trim thighs, plump wallet

One of our Smart Cookies decided this would be the year to kick it up a notch and get a personal trainer (yes, even Smart Cookies have personal trainers). In true Smart Cookie fashion, however, she did have to take on additional work to cover the costs of a personal trainer as it was not in her spending plan. We asked her to share some tips on saving with a personal trainer and then provide some options for those who aren't prepared to shell out the big bucks just yet, but still want to get the tight buns.

Buddy Up on Personal Trainers

If you don't want to pay the hefty fee that comes with having a personal trainer ($50-$85 an hour) ask if they offer a two-for-one special. Most trainers are comfortable training two people (or more) at once. If you share with a friend and commit to helping each other out, you and your bank account will feel much better. But even if you don't hire a personal trainer you should still buddy up and make a pact to meet each other at the gym certain times every week. You will be more likely to strap on your sneakers and go if you know your friend is saving you a treadmill. For us, getting in shape (just like getting your finances in order) only works when you have the motivation of others who hold you accountable.

Ask your trainer if they offer a two-for-one special.

YouTube It

YouTube covers just about everything from how to cut open a pomegranate to how to change the oil on your car. So it only seems logical that they would show us how to get in shape. Gone are the days of renting Jane Fonda's latest VHS for $20 at your local video store. Go to youtube.com and in the search engine box enter the type of workout you'd like to try: Abs, Yoga, Pilates ... you name it! And the best part is — it's free!

Podcasts, Podcasts, Podcasts

Since many of us have an iPod, it's about time we figured out what else this little gadget can do besides play music. We just tested out this program online called "Couch-to-5K". Not only does it allow you to follow the program for free, it also has corresponding podcasts you can download to your iPod and listen to the tutorials. And hey, even if you aren't training for a 5K run, it certainly gets you working out on a regular basis. (ullreys.com/robert/Podcasts/)

"Go to youtube.com and in the search engine box enter the type of workout you'd like to try: Abs, Yoga, Pilates ... you name it!"

If you have questions or comments for the Smart Cookies, please e-mail *smartcookies@metronews.ca*.

Tune in Wednesday night at 9 p.m. EST/PST on the W Network and be sure to visit smartcookies.com for more tips.

Surviving school costs

MoneyMatters

Q My son starts university this week. We have used the RESPs we started several years ago. These funds will pay for less than two years of tuition. We are not sure how we will afford to buy his books and other living costs at the moment. How do other parents do it?

Sondeep and Suni

A Starting College or University is another chapter of life for our kids. They must be responsible.

The financial stress may not have disappeared when the kids do, however. Parents that value higher education should do some early planning:

- Start a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) as early as possible
- Apply for the various scholarships offered by the universities and government
- Less "well-to-do" parents should apply for bursaries
- Attend a university close to home
- Have the kids save by not staying in residence
- Kids can work part-time at university but do not lose focus of why they are there
- Design a student financial budget: A simple "where is the money coming from and where it will go?"
- Students should claim moving cost, rent paid, tuition, education and book tax credits.

Henry Choo Chong, CGA, provides professional accounting and taxation solutions: choochonghcga@yahoo.ca.

Investing

Allan Small gives readers an update on the current market. Read his column at metronews.ca

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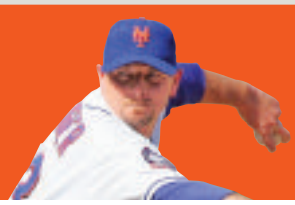
MLB
Rain forced the postponement of last night's scheduled game between the Blue Jays and the Chicago White Sox. It will be made up as part of a split doubleheader beginning at 2:05 today. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Sports



Mets closer likely out till 2010

New York Mets closer Billy Wagner, left, needs elbow surgery that likely will sideline him through the 2009 season. The five-time all-star has been out since Aug. 3 and the Mets said yesterday that he has a torn medial collateral ligament in his left elbow and a torn flexor pronator, which is a muscle in the forearm. The 37-year-old left-hander is set to have surgery later this week. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: JONATHAN P. KUEHLEIN, SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Federer finishes fantastic five-peat

Swiss star just one off all-time major mark

No matter what anyone else said or thought, Roger Federer knew he was still capable of elite tennis.

Knew he was still capable of winning Grand Slam titles.

Knew he was still Roger Federer.

Back at his best, back at the top of tennis, Federer easily beat Andy Murray 6-2, 7-5, 6-2 last night to win his fifth consecutive U.S. Open championship and 13th major title overall.

Federer is the first man since Bill Tilden in the 1920s to win the tournament that many times in a row. He also moved within one major championship of tying Pete Sampras' career record of 14.

"One thing's for sure," Federer said in an on-court interview. "I'm not going to stop at 13. That would be terrible."

The victory clearly came as something of a relief to Federer, who has struggled during a lacklustre-only-for-him season. He lost in the semifinal at the Australian Open, and to nemesis Rafael Nadal in the finals of the French Open and Wimbledon, meaning Federer was on the verge of his first year since 2002 without a major title. And his record streak of 237 consecutive weeks at No. 1 ended last month when Nadal surpassed him.

"I had a couple of tough Grand Slams this year ... so to take this one home is incredible," Federer said. "It means the world to me."

But the sixth-seeded Murray upset Nadal in the semifinal at Flushing Meadows to reach his first Grand Slam championship match, and Federer had no trouble this time.

"I came up against, in my opinion, the best player ever to play the game," said Murray.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AL BELLO/GETTY IMAGES

Roger Federer of Switzerland kisses the trophy after defeating Andy Murray of the United Kingdom to win the 2008 U.S. Open men's championship match yesterday in New York.

Huge week helps Rios nab honours

MLB Blue Jays right-fielder Alex Rios is the American League's player of the week.

Rios batted .414 (12-for-29) with three doubles, two triples, three home runs and eight RBIs in helping the Blue Jays to a pair of three-game sweeps versus Minnesota and Tampa Bay.

The 27-year-old was 8-for-15 with a home run and four RBIs against the Twins and hit a pair of home runs with three RBIs in a 6-4 win over the Rays on Friday.

Overall, Rios is hitting .295 with 43 doubles, eight triples, 13 home runs, 68 RBIs and 30 stolen bases.

Los Angeles Dodgers right-fielder Andre Ethier and Houston Astros pitcher Roy Oswalt shared the National League honours.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CFL

The Tiger-Cats and Blue Bombers hooked up on a blockbuster trade yesterday as a league source requesting anonymity told The Canadian Press that Winnipeg has dealt rush end Tom Canada, left, and the rights to defensive lineman Corey Mace to Hamilton for linebacker Zeke Moreno. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ticats fire coach after 2-8 start

CFL The Hamilton Tiger-Cats are making changes after winning just two of their first 10 games this season.

The CFL team fired head coach Charlie Taaffe yesterday, with offensive co-ordinator Marcel Bellefeuille to take over on an interim basis.

"I've never been a big fan of making coaching changes in mid-season," general manager Bob O'Billovich said at an afternoon news conference. "But looking ahead to where we are and where we want to be, I felt this is something I had to do."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

YorkReport
Marty York

Will return...

Brady officially done for season

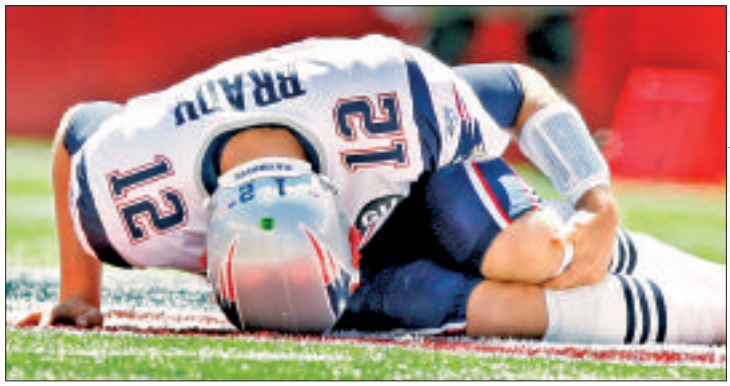
Patriots dealt major blow as star quarterback requires knee surgery

Tom Brady will miss the entire NFL season with a left knee injury that will require surgery, leaving the New England Patriots without one of the game's great quarterbacks and their Super Bowl hopes severely damaged.

The 2007 NFL Most Valuable Player will be placed on injured reserve, the Patriots said yesterday, one day after his knee was injured in the first quarter of a 17-10 victory over the Kansas City Chiefs.

A statement issued before coach Bill Belichick's news conference said Brady will have surgery, ending his 128-game starting streak, the third longest for a quarterback.

Brady left Sunday's game against Kansas City after he was hit by Chiefs safety Bernard Pollard. Brady was not available for comment, but reports circulated around the league that he had torn his anterior cruciate ligament.



JIM DAVIS/THE BOSTON GLOBE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady holds his leg after being hit by Kansas City Chiefs safety Bernard Pollard during the season-opening game on Sunday.

"We feel badly for Tom about the injury," Belichick said while not confirming the exact injury. "You hate to see anyone go down. No one has worked harder or done more for this team than Tom has."

Matt Cassel, who guided New England to its 20th straight regular-season win after Brady was hurt, will start Sunday at the New York Jets.

"As a team we all just have to do our jobs," Belichick said. "That really doesn't change."

But Brady's injury surely changes the complexion of the AFC, where the Patriots, winners of three Super Bowls since 2001 with Brady as their quarterback, were a strong favourite. Cassel's first true game experience came against the Chiefs.

"I'm not trying to be Tom Brady. I'm just trying to be Matt Cassel," he said when subbing for Brady on his regular weekly radio show. "I don't know where that's going to take us."

Cassel could have some competition. A person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press that former Tampa Bay quarterback Chris Simms was heading to Foxborough yesterday for a physical, and reports elsewhere said Tim Rattay was also being considered.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Blake puts 'disaster' season, leukemia woes, behind him

NHL Put simply, Jason Blake said the season he had last year — on and off the ice — was "a disaster."

The only good thing about it is that it's now behind him.

Blake was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer a few days into the 2007-08 season, then — perhaps distracted by thoughts of his own mortality — went on to the most disappointing season of his career.

"Last year was a disaster for me on the ice and personally," said Blake. "I was brought in to do something and it didn't happen. It was a tough year from start to finish. You close the book on that year.

"The good thing in sports is there's another year."

That year is really around the corner, with training camp opening Sept. 19. Practising yesterday with about 20 players in informal Leaf workouts at Lakeshore Lions arena, Blake says he's focused on hockey, not cancer.

"I'm doing great," said Blake. "I was actually at the doctor last week. Everything is definitely managed. I've put it behind me. It's good to be back and I'm ready to play. My mind is totally clear.

"It's the best I've felt in 10 years. I worked hard this summer. I did a couple of different things to get ready for this year and hopefully it will pay off."

BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

Winning the Bill Masterton Memorial Trophy for showing perseverance, sportsmanship, and dedication to hockey was one of the few highlights last season for Maple Leafs winger Jason Blake.

That Blake seems to be winning his battle with chronic myelogenous leukemia is perhaps the best news of all. He was assured from the beginning it was a beatable form of cancer. Still, the news came as a blow.

"I didn't think it would take that big of a toll on me. It did," said Blake. "It's unfortunate that had to happen."

Blake played all 82 games for the Maple Leafs last season. He never used his cancer as an excuse for a season that saw his production fall from 40 goals in 2006-07 with the New York Islanders to 15 with the Maple Leafs.

The 35-year-old Blake, heading into the second year of a five-year, $20-million US contract, said he's happy to be back with the team, even though it is clearly rebuilding.

"We're looking to have a good year this year," said Blake. "I'm not going to make any promises.

"I know the guys are excited. Whether we're a younger team or not, we're going to have a go-go attitude and play hard every single night."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cycling

Lance Armstrong will end his retirement and hopes to compete in the 2009 Tour de France, according to a cycling journal report. VeloNews reports the 36-year-old will compete in five road races with the Astana team in 2009. Astanta has denied the report. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FENG LI/GETTY IMAGES

Canada's Valerie Grand'Maison claims her gold medal for winning the women's S13 400-metre freestyle at the Paralympics yesterday.

Grand'Maison earns 2nd gold at Paralympics

Canada's Valerie Grand'Maison shattered her world record in the women's 400-metre freestyle for the visually impaired yesterday en route to capturing her second gold medal at the Paralympics in Beijing.

On a mixed day for Canada at the Games, there was heartbreak for Diane Roy of Hatley, Que., who was forced to return her gold medal in the women's 5,000 metres after the International Paralympic Committee ordered a re-run of the race that was marred by a dramatic crash.

The 19-year-old Grand'-Maison, from Longueuil, Que., won gold in four minutes 28.64 seconds to lower her previous world mark of 4:32.51 she swam at the Beijing Paralympic trials in April. Chelsey Gotell of Hamilton won the bronze.

"I couldn't be happier," said Grand'Maison, who's making her Paralympic debut in Beijing. "This pool is perfect and the atmosphere is electric. It is so exciting to race here."

Stephanie Dixon of Victoria added a bronze in the women's 100 freestyle at the Water Cube in a Canadian-record time of 1:03.89.

At the Bird's Nest stadium, Roy appeared to have won the 5,000 in a Paralympic record time of 11:54.03. But in the T54 race for wheelchair athletes with different levels of spinal cord injuries and amputations, six athletes tumbled to the track in a collision less than 100 metres from the finish line.

Only five athletes finished the race, and three countries — the U.S., Switzerland and Australia — protested the result. The athletes were instructed to return their medals, and the race was rescheduled for Friday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SCOREBOARD

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Tampa Bay	85	57	.599	—
w-Boston	85	58	.594	½
TORONTO	**76**	**66**	**.535**	**9**
N.Y. Yankees	76	67	.531	9½
Baltimore	64	78	.451	21

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago Sox	80	62	.563	—
Minnesota	78	65	.545	2½
Cleveland	69	73	.486	11
Detroit	69	74	.483	11½
Kansas City	61	81	.430	19

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Angels	86	56	.606	—
Texas	70	74	.486	17
Oakland	65	77	.458	21
Seattle	56	86	.394	30

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
N.Y. Mets	80	63	.559	—
Philadelphia	79	65	.549	1½
Florida	72	72	.500	8½
Atlanta	62	82	.431	18½
Washington	56	88	.389	24½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago Cubs	86	57	.601	—
w-Milwaukee	82	61	.573	4
St. Louis	77	66	.538	9
Houston	76	67	.531	10
Cincinnati	64	79	.448	22
Pittsburgh	60	82	.423	25½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Dodgers	73	70	.510	—
Arizona	71	71	.500	1½
Colorado	67	77	.465	6½
San Francisco	62	80	.437	10½
San Diego	55	88	.385	18

(w — teams currently holding wild-card spots)

LAST NIGHT'S RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TORONTO at Chicago White Sox — ppd. (rain)
Baltimore 14 Cleveland 3
Boston 3 Tampa Bay 0
Oakland at Detroit
N.Y. Yankees at L.A. Angels

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Philadelphia 8 Florida 6
Cincinnati at Milwaukee
Pittsburgh at Houston
L.A. Dodgers at San Diego
Arizona at San Francisco

TODAY'S GAMES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TORONTO at Chicago White Sox, 2:05 (Gm 1)
Tampa Bay at Boston, 7:05
Oakland at Detroit, 7:05
Cleveland at Baltimore, 7:05
Kansas City at Minnesota, 8:10
TORONTO at Chicago White Sox, 8:11 (Gm 2)
N.Y. Yankees at L.A. Angels, 10:05
Texas at Seattle, 10:10

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Florida at Philadelphia, 7:05
Colorado at Atlanta, 7:10
Washington at N.Y. Mets, 7:10
Cincinnati at Milwaukee, 8:05
Pittsburgh at Houston, 8:05
Chicago Cubs at St. Louis, 8:15
L.A. Dodgers at San Diego, 10:05
Arizona at San Francisco, 10:15

CFL

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	T	PTS
Montreal	7	3	0	14
TORONTO	**4**	**6**	**0**	**8**
Winnipeg	2	8	0	4
Hamilton	2	8	0	4

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	T	PTS
Saskatchewan	8	2	0	16
Edmonton	6	4	0	12
Calgary	6	4	0	12
B.C.	5	5	0	10

WEEK 12

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Winnipeg at **TORONTO**, 7
Montreal at Calgary, 10

SATURDAY'S GAMES

Hamilton at Edmonton, 7
Saskatchewan at B.C., 10

NFL

WEEK 1

LAST NIGHT'S RESULTS

Green Bay 24 Minnesota 19
Denver at Oakland

SUNDAY'S LATE RESULT

Chicago 29 Indianapolis 13

SOCCER

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SATURDAY'S GAME

Columbus at **TORONTO**, 3:30

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Money-saving tip

To save money, invest in a reusable water bottle or coffee mug and fill it at home to save buying the items at stores for an inflated price. You will make back the cost of the mug in no time. **NEWS CANADA**

Student ¢ents

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

online deals

Stretching every dollar is a way of life for most students, but when Derek Szeto was in university he turned that necessary frugality into a business. Inspired by his own need to save money, he created RedFlagDeals.com, a website that highlights the best deals and coupons around Canada. What started as a hobby is now one of the largest websites in Canada with more than a million visitors every month.

He started the website with only $100 and the time he had between classes and studying.

"Because I was a student, everyone was happy to give me advice or help out when they could," he said. "I was free to experiment because I didn't have a family counting on me to put food on the table."

When Szeto graduated from Queen's University in 2005, he had an important decision to make: Running RedFlagDeals.com full time or joining the workforce with a regular job. Szeto says the decision was easy: "If I hadn't given it a shot, I think I would have regretted it the rest of my life."

That was three years ago. RedFlagDeals.com now has 12 employees.

Szeto offers the following advice for budding student entrepreneurs: "When you're in university, you're surrounded by new ideas and people from every walk of life. Absorb it all and take advantage of everything around you. Opportunities are everywhere."

NEWS CANADA

Beauty on a budget

BRIAN TOWIE
brian.towie@metronews.ca

PAL PHOTO

It is possible to have a quality salon-style haircut if you're on a tight budget: Have it done by a local beauty school student.

Just because you're a frazzled, penniless student, that doesn't mean you have to live like one.

It is possible for you to get access to a dentist, a quality salon-style haircut or even have a relaxing day at the spa if you're on a limited budget. You need not look further than your school, or your fellow students, to accommodate you. Various establishments offer services, often at pay-less rates that won't compromise your meagre means.

Need to have your teeth looked at but have no money for a dentist? Most schools offer a dental plan included in your tuition fees. If you're already covered under your parents' plan, your school may offer an option to back out and get part of your fee refunded to you. (Some institutions are reticent to volunteer this information in the interests of very quietly keeping your money, so you may have to do some asking around about it.)

"A lot of student unions feature plans of this kind," says Chris McGrath, student affairs representative at the University of Toronto's Mississauga campus. "It varies by campus. Your health centre should have a database of core and extended set of what's covered depending on your status as a student. It can be different if you're mature or part-time."

You can even pamper yourself on the cheap if you know where to look. Local haircutting and spa treatment academies will often offer their services at sometimes much less than half the cost of what the professionals will charge you, if you're willing to have it done by a student.

"Any student on a tight budget is looking for a good deal. We'll do a wash and a cut for around $9 that might easily cost $100 somewhere else," says Henry Devlin, director of the Marvel Hairstyling and Esthetic School's Ottawa branch.

"We'll do a wash and cut for around $9 that might easily cost $100 somewhere else."
Henry Devlin

There is the "get what you pay for" worry that work done by an inexperienced learner may result in disaster, and if you want this type of discounted service performed at a professional level, you'll have to be patient. Devlin says students at his school — part of a nationwide chain of stylist academies — may take a bit longer than someone with full training, but it's done to ensure the amateur does a good job rather than have them make a mistake because they're rushed.

"There's that fear that not as good a job will be done," he said. "You have to make sure the student is at the appropriate level. Here, students train for at least two to three months before they work on people, and we've got teachers on the floor to make sure they're doing it right.

"It might take two hours, a bit longer than a professional stylist. Not to say that they do, but we don't focus on getting people in and out the door. We want to make sure that the client has a great experience in a professional environment."

'Free' credit cards come with hidden costs

As a post-secondary student with a low — or no — income carrying a sizeable student debt, you should be careful with credit cards.

It's all too easy to get one: Credit card companies frequent campuses, luring in students with free swag and low starting rates. If you must have a credit card, here's how you should treat it:

Never max out your card. The less of a balance you carry, the easier it is to pay off and the more you'll have available should an emergency arise. A good rule of thumb is to keep your balance less than 50 per cent of your credit limit, or better yet, an amount you can pay down by the end of the month.

Another way is to get a credit card with the lowest possible interest rate and no annual fees, with just enough of a credit limit to get out of a jam. Don't carry it with you regularly.

If you can't afford to pay off the full balance, make more than the minimum payment, which often doesn't even cover principal (the amount charged to the card, interest aside). Compound interest (interest built on interest from the principal) builds quickly and before you know it, you'll be paying far more than you originally intended.

Pay on time. Your credit rating (what lenders look at before they decide whether you're a safe bet to front money to) can be affected by late payments and collection agencies. You'll need it in good standing when you make big-ticket purchases years down the road, like a car.

— BRIAN TOWIE

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metro
film festival
TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL • METRO SPECIAL ISSUE
TORONTO • TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 9 2008 metronews.ca

EDITORS: STEPHANIE BOMBA, stephanie.bomba@metronews.ca & JIM REYNO, jim.reyno@metronews.ca

Star-gazing Pg 4

ENZA SUPERMODEL PHOTO

Photos and more from yesterday's OneX-One gala. Above, singer Nikki Yanofsky.

In focus Pg 6

RICK MCGINNIS/METRO TORONTO

An interview with the director of The Hurt Locker, Kathryn Bigelow.

At the movies Pgs 7 & 8

Read reviews of TIFF films A Year Ago In Winter, Only and many more.

Provoking parallels

Pg 3

RICK MCGINNIS/METRO TORONTO

The Duchess director Saul Dibb worries the comparisons between Lady Diana Spencer and her ancestor, Georgiana, the Duchess of Devonshire, will get in the way of people appreciating the tragedy of Georgiana's story.

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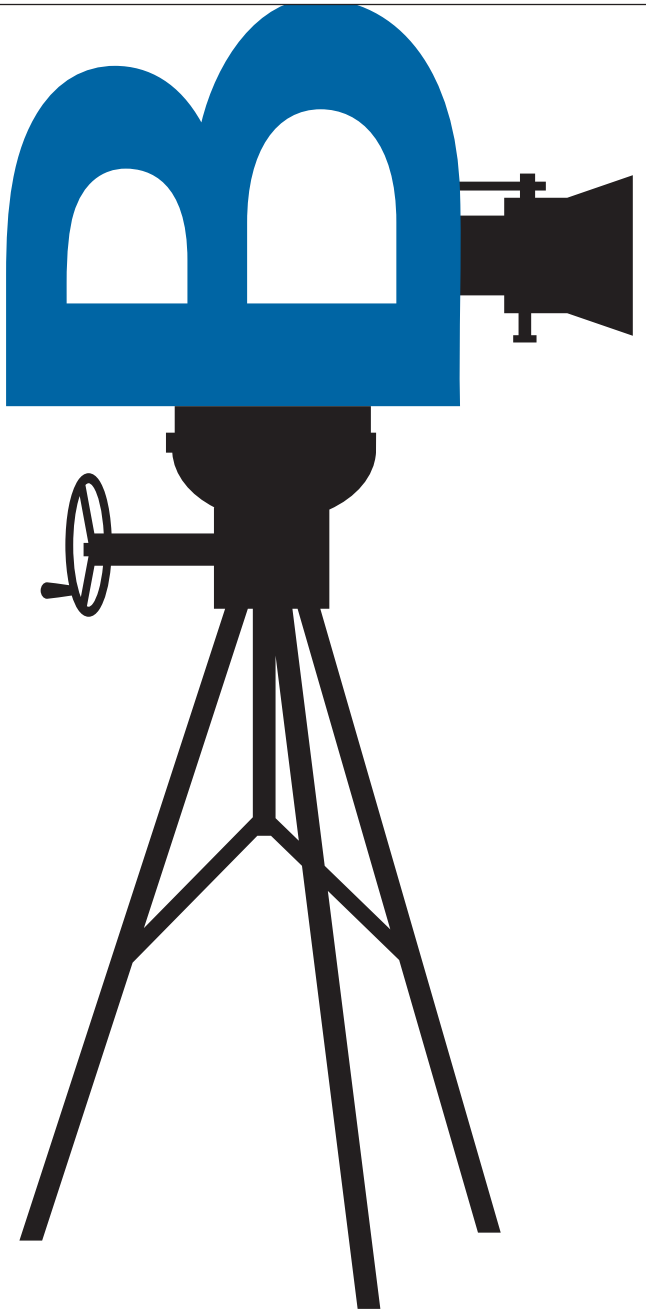

movie lov**er**

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Celebrity status over the centuries

Director Saul Dibb says the tragic story of The Duchess is every bit as relevant today

RICK MCGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

It's a testament to the power of Lady Diana Spencer's memory that a movie about one of her most famous ancestors — Georgiana, the Duchess of Devonshire — has provoked so many people to find parallels between their lives, separated by two centuries.

Saul Dibb, the director of The Duchess, which stars Keira Knightley as Georgiana, expected the comparisons, but worries that they'll get in the way of people appreciating the particular tragedy of the woman's story.

"We know there's the direct bloodline," Dibb says, "and people talk about that more than Marilyn Monroe, for instance, and no other tragic women who were powerful in the public eye and have all kinds of problems at home.

"I think the thing is that parallels are fine to an extent. We all draw them to an extent, but we have to be careful not to reduce it to that, because it's not reducible to that. I think she was a very different person, and I think the actual details of what happened in her life are quite different."

RICK MCGINNIS/METRO TORONTO

Saul Dibb says Keira Knightley could relate to the experiences of The Duchess.

What Dibb doesn't want people to do is treat Georgiana as a character from a distant past, remote from our own in both manners and morals.

"People tend to look at the past as if it's completely alien, as opposed to just a different country, as it was once famously described," he said.

"For me, the 18th century was kind of like the '60s. There were radical ideas, there was freedom, and the idea of freedom being talked about — people were talking about emancipation, whether it was the slaves or the United States, for instance.

"All that stuff was going on, and I think the Victorian era has tainted people heavily into thinking the past, and England in particular, was a place of repression, where it was something much more complicated.

"It was the birth of the press, and someone like Georgiana was allowed to become, not a politician with a big P but a small p. She was behind the scenes, working in the backrooms, as it were, like a patron of politicians she wanted to champion.

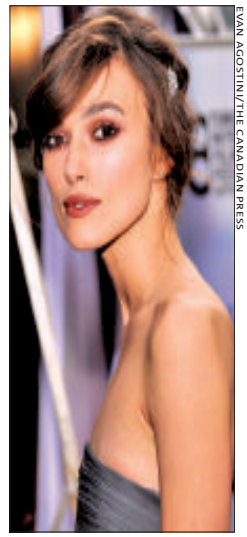
"That was one of the things that I found immediately attractive about the project from the moment I was sent it — it felt like a modern approach to a time, because it's about the interpersonal relationships between these people. I think a lot of British period films tend to keep a kind of distance between these people, and that tends to make you feel that they're slightly more than they would be."

Casting Knightley as Georgiana can't help but help emphasize how celebrity culture isn't new, and Dibb was confident his star would be able to use her own experience with a tabloid press that, in Britain at least, has become voracious.

"It's maybe that it's more ruthless, I think. It's a completely unforgiving culture," Dibb says.

"To me, the acting quality on one side has to be somebody who can inhabit that part, and I felt absolutely committed that Keira could do that.

"But there has to be things on the other side, and I'm sure Keira could understand what it was like to be thrust into the public eye at a very young age, and have people have a certain expectation of you in the public sphere, and that your private world is always going to be very different."



EVAN AGOSTINI/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Keira Knightley attends a gala screening of The Duchess at TIFF on Sunday.

French director mixes comedy and drama in 'psychological study'

STEVE VEALE
for Metro Toronto

Anne Fontaine is friendly and relaxed as she glides into the room for an interview about her TIFF hit La Fille De Monaco.

The descriptions are apt — as a professional dancer, she does glide; the relaxed part because she has just come from the second sold-out screening of her film; and friendly, well, just because she is.

"As a director, you know your future from the very first screening," she says in her French-tinged English. "A director knows — as we say — the weather, the temperature, very quickly from the reaction of the audience."

The film opened three weeks ago in France. "The critics were very kind," she says modestly about her hit film that has garnered the same positive reaction at this North American premiere.

The film revolves around Bernard, a proper, middle-aged lawyer, who is besotted by the much younger, uninhibited Audrey. Bodyguard Christophe tries to warn him as a seemingly romantic romp turns twisted with obsession.

Anne Fontaine

"The cerebral Bernard comes into contact with two people who do not analyze their actions," she says. Though the movie starts off as light comedy, "It becomes something much more opaque."

Fontaine said she wanted to explore the social distance between the two men and the fact that a "stupid, neurotic" girl could threaten both their lives.

"I've always written and directed more dramatic, often bizarre films, and this was my first attempt at a psychological study that combined comedy and drama," she says.

"It was difficult for me to do but much more exciting."

When Fontaine makes a film, she says she "suffers always, but suffered more" with this one.

A child of the arts, she started dancing at age seven, became a company professional at 15 and actress at 17 when a director chose her as Esméralda in a version of The Hunchback of Notre Dame.

She continued acting but turned to writing at 25 "because I could no longer take orders from people I did not respect." She convinced backers to finance her film that won awards at Cannes.

When she returns to Paris, she will start work on her 10th film, a bio of French designer Coco Chanel starring Audrey Tatou.

TIFF on the web
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TIFF after **dark**
enza.supermodel@metronews.ca

Time running out

If you didn't get a chance to get in some stargazing these past seven days of the festival then tonight is your last chance to catch the A-listers before they head out of town.

One party you can be sure to spot them at is the InStyle Magazine party, presented by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, at the Windsor Arms Hotel. This celebrity-induced gathering will certainly be buzzing with stars like **Jennifer Aniston**, **Matt Damon**, **Queen Latifah** and **Sandra Oh**. The line-up of black SUVs start around 9 p.m. For some reason, it always rains at this event.

Further west, the world-acclaimed film — Che — marks its after-party celebrations at The GreenHouse, 99 Sudbury St., in the heart of Liberty Village.

tonight's galas

- Pride And Glory, 6:30 p.m.
- A Year Ago In Winter, 9:30 p.m.

The film's star, **Benicio Del Toro**, will be making an appearance.

And finally, Film Italia and the Italian Trade Commission set sail — well, not really — with its annual festival party on the Kajama Tall Ship, at 375 Queens Quay West, at 8 p.m.

ENZA SUPERMODEL PHOTOS

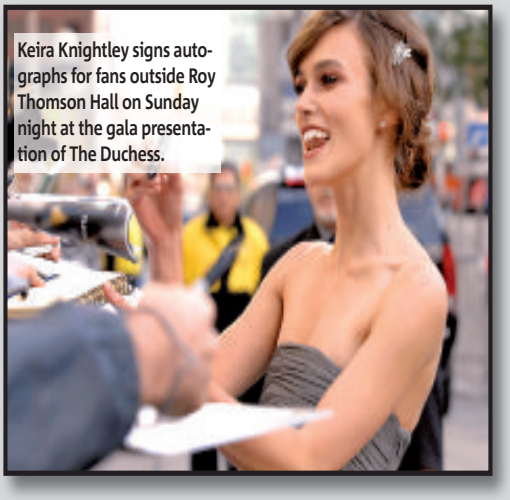
The stars were out in full force last night for the annual gala for OneXOne, a charitable organization that provides aid to children in need around the world. Clockwise, from top: John Legend, Wyclef Jean and Russell Peters.

Adoration stars Scott Speedman and Rachel Blanchard were spotted at the Entertainment One anniversary party at the ROM on Sunday.

For their fans

HELLO! CANADA

Check out HELLO! Canada on the newsstand or go to www.hellomagazine.ca/tiff for exclusive coverage of the Toronto film fest.



Keira Knightley signs autographs for fans outside Roy Thomson Hall on Sunday night at the gala presentation of The Duchess.

GEORGE PIMENTEL/HELLO! CANADA PHOTOS

Ralph Fiennes signs autographs for fans outside Roy Thomson Hall before hitting the red carpet for the screening of The Duchess.

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Iraqi war 'humanized'

Director puts the audience on the front lines with The Hurt Locker

RICK MCGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

RICK MCGINNIS/METRO TORONTO

Kathryn Bigelow wanted to convey "the lethality of a simple street" in The Hurt Locker.

A man in what looks like a space suit walks down a dusty street in the pitiless midday sun to disarm a bomb, whose trigger might be held by anyone idly watching him from the sidelines.

This is the basic scenario in director Kathryn Bigelow's The Hurt Locker, a war film that's been a buzz title at the Toronto International Film Festival, and that might the first Iraq war film to click with audiences.

Bigelow made her reputation with her sophomore film, Near Dark, a vampire film that remains a high-water mark in that increasingly overcrowded genre, and buffed that reputation with a series of films that established her skill with white-knuckle drama and action.

It's no surprise that she'd be attracted to this sort of stark, adrenalized story. But her treatment of it has surpassed expectations, though she insists she was simply responding to the material and the story.

"We just wanted to put a human face on that particular conflict," Bigelow tells me, "and since Mark (Boal, screenwriter) had been there — that's the benefit of first-hand observation.

"The war is, certainly as I understand it through his eyes, searching for IEDs.

"That's the signature of this conflict; it's like the jungle in Vietnam. And I think it's really unique — that's the war.

"There's no air power or other engagements; you're constantly seeking out this invisible threat, and it's insidious and it's futile, and I think the futility of it is what kept coming across to me.

"And my feeling is that if I could share that without polemics, or without being dogmatic, if we could just somehow humanize the experience for an audience, then we've certainly done our job."

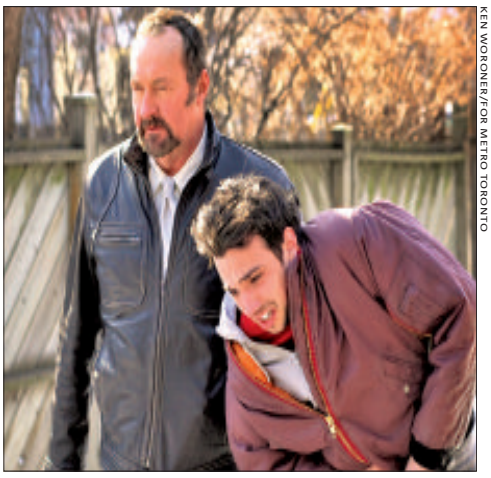
The Hurt Locker

You can see The Hurt Locker tomorrow at 9 a.m. at the Ryerson Theatre, 43 Gerrard St. E.

Almost plotless, the film centres itself around an apparently suicidal bomb tech (Jeremy Renner) and the two men in his unit (Brian Geraghty and Anthony Mackie) whose lives he risks with his increasing recklessness. According to Bigelow, the tension she tried to create in every scene resonates wildly because its setting is so banal.

"The lethality of a simple street with a white rice bag fluttering in the breeze," is her description of the film's basic setting, "and a little bit of rubble that's somehow broken by an object underneath.

"The degree to which the environment is lethal is a critical thing to put the audience in that mindset."



KEN WORONER/FOR METRO TORONTO

Randy Quaid, left, and Jay Baruchel star in Real Time.

Canadian director landed hot property for Real Time

STEVE GOW
For Metro Toronto

Randall Cole's timing couldn't be better. Not only did the Canuck director roll out his sophomore effort Real Time in this year's film festival, but the movie stars Jay Baruchel – one of today's hottest rising Hollywood properties.

"He was just getting some heat when we went to him," says Cole about the young star who has been showered with praise for his work in comedies like Tropic Thunder and Knocked Up.

"It wasn't really a consideration for us; it was just that he could play this hyper, almost-unlikeable guy and sort of someone we kind of like and dislike at the same time."

> **"You have to be able to catch people's attention."**
> Randall Cole

In the film, Baruchel plays Andy, a loser with a gambling addiction who owes a ton of cash to a gangster. Soon, Andy finds himself the unwilling hostage of Reuben (Randy Quaid), a rugged, middle-aged hitman who is generous enough to let Andy do whatever he wants with his final hour of life.

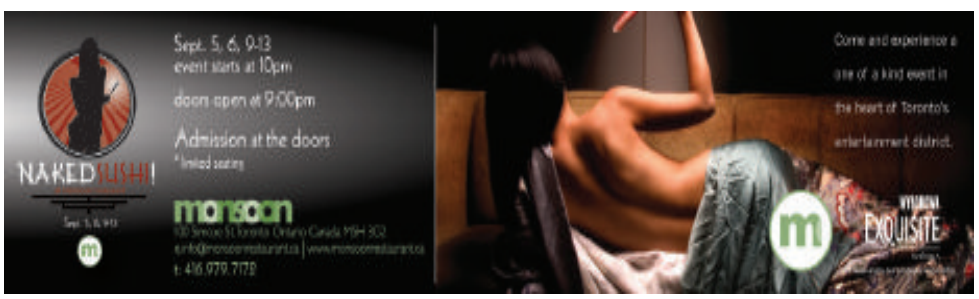
"I'm always looking for an idea to hang (a movie) on and something I can do fairly low budget," says Cole of the intimate comedy. "This idea of someone being granted an hour to live struck me as fairly high stakes and something both comic and dramatic. I like when those worlds tend to meet."

To that effect, Baruchel plays an anxious, indecisive slacker who has the most negative of outlooks on life. Quaid's Reuben, on the other hand, is a polite, positive gentleman who just happens to kill folks for a living.

"You have to be able to catch people's attention," admits Cole. "If you're going to do something minimalist, I think you need an interesting premise to keep people's attention and make up for the smallness of production."

It may be a small Canadian comedy, but Real Time is big on story. And the landing of such a vet as Quaid provides the flick with some lift.

"He's not just the hillbilly guy," says Cole, referring to Quaid's most famous role as Cousin Eddie in the Vacation comedies. "He can do so much more."



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Film reviews

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

McDonald turns to horror in Pontypool

●●●

REVIEW Director Bruce McDonald makes his requisite TIFF appearance with Pontypool, his first horror film. The entire movie takes place in a radio station where a Don Imus-style DJ is trapped and must report on a zombie attack occurring outside. Of course, these zombies aren't presented in the traditional flesh-eating fashion, but become walking members of the undead as the result of saying certain words.

For the first few reels, the movie is tense and suspenseful, but once the writers attempt to explain the zombie outburst things fall apart. Still, Pontypool is still a worthy entry in McDonald's career and boasts a sensational performance from Stephen McHattie.

Phil Brown/For Metro Toronto

Lisa Houle and Stephen McHattie star in Bruce McDonald's Pontypool.

Il Divo

●●●

REVIEW This Italian biopic has a lot of style — enough to earn filmmaker Paolo Sorrentino the Jury Prize at Cannes this year. But unless you're familiar with former Italian prime minister Giulio Andreotti and his accusations of collusion with the mafia, you'll be lost watching this slick-looking drama. An action-packed opening and a stunning performance from Toni Servillo might make it worthwhile if you have some knowledge of Italian politics.

Steve Gow/For Metro Toronto

Zack and Miri Make a Porno

●●●½

REVIEW For years, Kevin Smith's detractors predicted that the filmmaker's career would die once he stopped using his stock characters' Jay and Silent Bob. Fortunately, Smith has proved them wrong with Zack and Miri Make A Porno, a delightfully raunchy and surprisingly touching romantic comedy that only he could make. The title says it all plot-wise, with the almost-overexposed Seth Rogen and the about-to-break-through Elizabeth Banks perfectly cast in the title roles.

As with all of Smith's productions, the ambition is low. All he's aiming for is laughs, but when they come this consistently and uproariously, it's hard to complain.

Phil Brown/For Metro Toronto

A Year Ago in Winter

●●½

REVIEW Alexander died tragically almost one year ago in a hunting accident. As a memorial tribute, his mother commissions an artist to create a portrait of her deceased 19-year-old son and his 21-year-old sister. We soon learn that Alexander actually committed suicide — that is when the tortured truth starts to emerge. This German film, directed with finesse by Oscar winner Caroline Link, explores the lies we tell ourselves to avoid dealing with feelings that may be too overwhelming to confront.

Steve Veale/For Metro Toronto

24 City

●●●●

REVIEW Jia Zhangke is China's most elegantly contentious filmmaker, and 24 City (the title refers to a condo development/industrial park that's being erected in place of a long-standing factory) is perhaps his subtlest provocation yet.

The film examines a half-century's worth of social and industrial upheaval through intimate interviews with the people who lived it, but sharp-eyed viewers will catch a few well-known Chinese actors giving testimony alongside the factory's real employees. This blurring of the doc/narrative line expresses the difficulty of definitively putting history onscreen — a gesture that speaks both to Jia's audacity and his humility.

Adam Nayman/For Metro Toronto

Medicine for Melancholy

●●½

REVIEW Melancholy showcases the 24-hour period following a one-night stand between Joanne (a feminist-leaning T-shirt designer) and Micah (an angry fish-tank installer who punctuates racially charged rants with, "I'm just sayin'"). Richly filmed in San Francisco, the drama works best when it plays with ideas of gentrification and living in one of America's most expensive, but beautiful cities. Unfortunately, the two leads just aren't all that interesting. Hey, I'm just sayin'.

Steve Gow/For Metro Toronto

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Film reviews

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Of Time and the City a personal look at Liverpool

●●●

REVIEW Terence Davies returns to action after eight years with Of Time and the City, in which the master filmmaker meditates on his hometown of Liverpool. That the Beatles are only referred to in passing suggests this is a very personal civic history.

Constructed largely out of archival footage, with a soundtrack split between great, glorious swaths of classical music and the director's own bone-dry voiceover, the film is enjoyable but not as exhilarating as its Cannes buzz suggests.

Adam Nayman/For Metro Toronto

The Brothers Bloom

●●●●

REVIEW Anyone who saw 2005's Brick knows filmmaker Rian Johnson can take an entirely inconceivable premise and turn it into something very cool. In The Brothers Bloom he does it again, making a funny, suspenseful and tender movie about two con-artist siblings coming to terms with a lifetime of enduring foster homes, planning stunningly elaborate cons and the coping with the void caused by living a "written life."

With stellar performances and a keen visual storytelling sense courtesy of Johnson, this flick is a pure pleasure to witness.

Steve Gow/For Metro Toronto

Only

●●

REVIEW The fact that it takes 50 minutes for the main characters to introduce themselves is indicative of the glacial pacing in Only — a lo-fi drama about Daniel and Vera, two preteens stuck in rural Canada.

While exploring the wintery countryside, the pair bond over their hopes (Vera wishes for "safety") and fears (Daniel is scared of "being tortured"?). Most of the time, however, they walk around looking at inukshuks, eating cheese and talking about Daniel's love of bacon.

Steve Gow/For Metro Toronto

Pride and Glory

●●●

REVIEW Gritty and dark but occasionally lacking some of the gravitas it purports to have, Pride and Glory works well enough as an examination of corruption, morality and honour.

Led by solid performances from Ed Norton and Colin Farrell, the film provides some decent intrigue but at times feels contrived. Although with plenty of blood and F-words to go around, it's not enough to sink it.

Raf Brusilow/For Metro Toronto

Today's film screenings

ROY THOMSON HALL
60 Simcoe St.

A Year Ago in Winter 9:30 PM

Pride and Glory 6:30 PM

SCOTIABANK THEATRE 1
259 Richmond St., 416-368-5600

A Perfect Day (Un Giorno perfetto) 8:30 PM

Genova 11:45 AM

Last Stop 174 (Ultima Parada 174) 2:30 PM

L' Empreinte de l'ange (The Mark of an Angel) 9 AM

Tokyo Sonata 5:30 PM

SCOTIABANK THEATRE 2
259 Richmond St., 416-368-5600

Flame & Citron (Flammen & Citronen) 2:45 PM

Kisses 12:15 PM

Lymelife 9:15 PM

Management 9:30 AM

Nuit de Chien (Tonight) 6:15 PM

SCOTIABANK THEATRE 3
259 Richmond St., 416-368-5600

Aide-toi le ciel t'aidera (With a Little Help From Myself) 12:45 PM

Kabuli Kid 9:30 PM

The Window (La Ventana) 4 PM

Three Blind Mice 9:45 AM

Valentino: The Last Emperor 6:45 PM

SCOTIABANK THEATRE 4
259 Richmond St., 416-368-5600

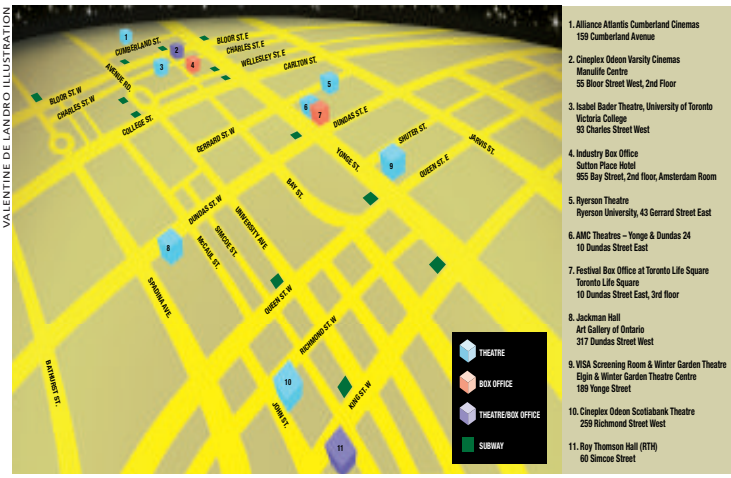
Down to the Dirt 8:45 PM

Maman est chez le coiffeur (Mommy Is at the Hairdresser's) 6 PM

Pandora's Box (Pandoranin Kutusu) 3 PM

Two-Legged Horse (Asbe Du-Pa) 12 PM

VALENTINE DE LANDRO ILLUSTRATION


1. Alliance Atlantis Cumberland Cinemas
159 Cumberland Avenue
2. Cineplex Odeon Varsity Cinemas
Manulife Centre
55 Bloor Street West, 2nd Floor
3. Isabel Bader Theatre, University of Toronto
Victoria College
93 Charles Street West
4. Industry Box Office
Sutton Place Hotel
955 Bay Street, 2nd floor, Amsterdam Room
5. Ryerson Theatre
Ryerson University, 43 Gerrard Street East
6. AMC Theatres – Yonge & Dundas 24
10 Dundas Street East
7. Festival Box Office at Toronto Life Square
Toronto Life Square
10 Dundas Street East, 3rd floor
8. Jackman Hall
Art Gallery of Ontario
317 Dundas Street West
9. VISA Screening Room & Winter Garden Theatre
Elgin & Winter Garden Theatre Centre
189 Yonge Street
10. Cineplex Odeon Scotiabank Theatre
259 Richmond Street West
11. Roy Thomson Hall (RTH)
60 Simcoe Street
THEATRE
BOX OFFICE
THEATRE/BOX OFFICE
SUBWAY

Voy a Explotar 9:15 AM

RYERSON THEATRE
Ryerson University
43 Gerrard St. E.

Flash of Genius 9 AM

Gigantic 3 PM

Paris, Not France 6 PM

The Brothers Bloom 9 PM

The Burrowers 11:59 PM

The Wrestler 12 PM

MOCCA PROJECT ROOM
Museum of Contemporary Candian Art
952 Queen St. W.

The Death of Tom 11 AM

VISA SCREENING ROOM
Elgin & Winter Garden Theatre Centre
189 Yonge St.

Che (Part 1) 9 PM

Miracle at St. Anna 11 AM

The Narrows 7:45 PM

Un Barrage Contre le Pacifique (The Sea Wall) 6 PM

Zack and Miri Make a Porno 3 PM

JACKMAN HALL
Art Gallery of Ontario,
317 Dundas St. W.

Bayan Ko: My Own Country (Bayan Bayan Ko, Kapit sa Patalim) 9:30 PM

La Pointe courte 6:30 PM

VARSITY 1
Manulife Centre, 55 Bloor St. W.,
2nd floor, 416-961-6304

Four Nights With Anna (Cztery noce z Anna) 8:45 PM

VARSITY 2
Manulife Centre, 55 Bloor St. W.,
2nd floor, 416-961-6304

The Country Teacher (Venkovský Učitel) 9 PM

VARSITY 3
Manulife Centre, 55 Bloor St. W.,
2nd floor, 416-961-6304

Krabat 8:15 PM

VARSITY 4
Manulife Centre, 55 Bloor St. W.,
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Jerichow 7:30 PM

VARSITY 5
Manulife Centre, 55 Bloor St. W.,
2nd floor, 416-961-6304

Before Tomorrow 8:15 PM

VARSITY 7
Manulife Centre, 55 Bloor St. W.,
2nd floor, 416-961-6304

Pontypool 7:30 PM

VARSITY 8
Manulife Centre, 55 Bloor St. W.,
2nd floor, 416-961-6304

The Narrows 7:45 PM

YONGE & DUNDAS 24 AMC THEATRE 1
10 Dundas St. E., 416-977-2642

24 City (Er Shi Si Cheng Ji) 3:15 PM

YONGE & DUNDAS 24 AMC THEATRE 2
10 Dundas St. E., 416-977-2642

Of Time and the City 4 PM

Only 6:45 PM

Sounds Like Teen Spirit: A Popumentary 9:15 PM

YONGE & DUNDAS 24 AMC THEATRE 3
10 Dundas St. E., 416-977-2642

PROGRAMME 3 9:15 PM

Vacation (Zyuka) 3:30 PM

Zift 6:30 PM

YONGE & DUNDAS 24 AMC THEATRE 4
10 Dundas St. E., 416-977-2642

7915 KM 8:15 PM

Patrik 1,5 (Patrik Age 1.5) 2 PM

YONGE & DUNDAS 24 AMC THEATRE 5
10 Dundas St. E., 416-977-2642

Birdsong (El Cant dels Ocells) 5 PM

Patrik 1,5 (Patrik Age 1.5) 2 PM

Winds of September (Jiu Jiang Feng) 7:45 PM

YONGE & DUNDAS 24 AMC THEATRE 6
10 Dundas St. E., 416-977-2642

Medicine for Melancholy 8:45 PM

More Than A Game 3 PM

Toronto Stories 6 PM

YONGE & DUNDAS 24 AMC THEATRE 7
10 Dundas St. E., 416-977-2642

A Film With Me In It 8:30 PM

Not Quite Hollywood 2:30 PM

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- You can buy tickets online at tiff08.ca.
- To buy tickets by phone, call 416-968-FILM (3456) or 1-877-968-FILM (3456).
- To buy at the box office, go to Manulife Centre, 55 Bloor St. W. (main floor, north entrance). Mon. to Sat., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Restless 5:15 PM

YONGE & DUNDAS 24 AMC THEATRE 9
10 Dundas St. E., 416-977-2642

Sea Point Days 8:30 PM

The Dungeon Masters 5:30 PM

The Heart of Jenin (Das Herz von Jenin) 2:45 PM

YONGE & DUNDAS 24 AMC THEATRE 10
10 Dundas St. E., 416-977-2642

Food, Inc. 3:15 PM

Peace Mission 6 PM

Pedro 8:45 PM

WINTER GARDEN THEATRE
Elgin & Winter Garden Theatre Centre
189 Yonge St.

Il Divo 4:30 PM

Synecdoche, New York 8:30 PM

ISABEL BADER THEATRE
University of Toronto, Victoria College
93 Charles St. W.

In Conversation with Kathryn Bigelow 7:45 PM

Nothing But the Truth 4:45 PM

Snow (Snijeg) 9:45 PM

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Job fair Sept. 17

GTA residents looking for work or a career change should not miss Job Fair 2008, held at Centennial College's Student Residence and Conference Centre (940 Progress Ave. in Scarborough) Wednesday, Sept. 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

Teacher designation

While nurses, engineers, accountants and early childhood educators have professional designation, teachers do not. A recent poll suggests that 66 per cent of teachers strongly support having a letter designation next to their names to signify they are teaching professionals. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Helping out nanny employers

Want help with your child? You may need help with tax

Small Business

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

For parents struggling with complicated tax forms for their nanny, a new start-up business is hoping to make their lives easier.

Tax4Nanny was launched in June by chartered accountant Gila Ossip to take the confusion out of all the mandatory tax forms families have to fill out every year when they have a nanny.

It's no joke — hiring a nanny makes you a full-time employer and you need to remit payroll deductions, provide an accurate T-4 form to your nanny each year and pay monthly Worker's Compensation like any other business.

"People find it very cumbersome — they are overwhelmed with all the paperwork," Ossip said.

Tax4Nanny takes care of all those important documents and deals with all inquiries and communications coming from the Canada Revenue Agency, leaving parents who employ a nanny free to spend precious at-home time playing with their kids instead of filling out tax forms.

Ossip, 34, got the idea for the service when she hired a live-in nanny to take care of her own daughter four years ago. She was surprised at how much paperwork was involved in employing a nanny and realized that many people probably felt the same way.

Parents pay $300 to $500 yearly for the service, a drop in the bucket compared to the $1,500 to $1,600 per month in salary and other fees it costs to employ a nanny legally in Canada. As a result, most of Tax4Nanny's clients tend to be high-income earners such as doctors or lawyers who already have sizable strains on their time and are happy to have an expert like Ossip handle the tax homework.

Ossip gave up a safe and lucrative job at renowned accounting firm Deloitte & Touche to strike out on her own and admits that running a business is a stark change from the certainty of a salaried position.

"I don't know where my next client is going to come from, but I am learning to become confident that the phone will ring," Ossip said.

In the few months since starting up in June, Tax4Nanny has already garnered 25 clients from across Canada and Ossip plans to take on many more. The majority of her client referrals come from nanny hiring agencies, many of which are happy to send parents to her as they aren't comfortable answering tax questions themselves. While business is booming, Ossip knows that the ride can eventually get bumpy, but says the risks are all worth it.

"I think there's going to be a big learning curve, but the excitement of working for myself is phenomenal," she said.

RAFAEL BRUSILOW/FOR METRO CANADA

Tax4Nanny head Gila Ossip knows first-hand what it takes to organize tax forms if you employ a nanny.

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Fanshawe considers measures over wild partying
Fanshawe College administration are discussing measures to curb unruly partying following student rowdyism off-campus over the long weekend. Broken beer bottles and garbage littered the streets in the Fleming Drive area, located near the London college. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Trust needed for telecommuters

Work-from-home trend prompts new management styles for small businesses

With gasoline prices expected to remain uncomfortably high, many small businesses are letting some of their staffers work at home. And some owners are discovering that allowing employees to telecommute can require a different management style and some basic trust.

Having telecommuters can be challenging for a boss who's used to having everyone in the office in plain sight — and who now has much less control over someone who's working in pyjamas with "The View" on TV in the background. Or a staffer who takes time away from work during the day to start cooking dinner or walk the dog.

Owners can find themselves worrying about the work getting done, although it should be clear from telecommuters' output whether their productivity is suffering or whether they're meeting deadlines.

Lloyd Princeton, who owns two consulting firms, has seven employees, including one who telecommutes. Princeton said he wonders about what his home-based staffer is doing.

"The biggest issue I have is tracking time and knowing when he's working," said Princeton, the president of Design Management Co. "The doubt starts to happen when he has offsite meetings — various doctor appointments or the vet."

But, Princeton said, "he gets the work done. He does quality work for clients."

Princeton said he tries to find a balance in general with his staffers — "I tend to pay attention to detail, but I do my best not to micromanage" — but a telecommuting situation presents more of a problem.

Of course, onsite workers may come in late after a doctor's appointment or run personal errands during the afternoon just as Princeton's worker does. But for many owners, well, it just seems different when they can see employees coming and going.

High gas prices may cause small business owners to trust their employees to work from home.

Still, there are whole companies and even industries that now rely on employees who work at home, such as customer service or telemarketing firms. And many use high-tech tools, including conferencing and networking systems, to ease communications between telecommuters and the office, and some use software to help monitor work flows.

Steve Lundin, who owns BIGFrontier Communications Group, a public relations firm, has learned to shrug off the doubts.

"You're trusting people to do the work," Lundin said. "There is some fluff time, but what you bill out for is far more than what you're paying them." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Another small business myth

"Running a business is easy." It just looks that way. Canadian entrepreneurs typically work 59 hours a week and small business owners endure considerable stress associated with getting, doing and managing their operation. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Start-up businesses prone to many errors

When one decides to start his or her own business, there are six common mistakes they can make. Here they are:

• Being too reliant on one person, typically the business owner.

By relying entirely on one person you are setting yourself up for disaster if he or she gets sick and cannot run the business. You should have trusted partners or skilled employees trained and able to take over in the event of an emergency.

• Not having a proper accounting system in place.

Good bookkeeping is essential to the success of your business. "Hire a capable and effective CPA to assist you and keep you on top of all accounting-related government rules and regulations," says Paul MacDonald, senior vice-president, of Aon.

• Underestimating the financial requirements of the business.

Be honest with yourself about financial requirements. Most entrepreneurs underestimate the required start-up capital. If you consider that you are likely going to lose money in the first six months to a year of your new business, you need to ensure that you have arranged for sufficient capital to cover operating losses.

"Most entrepreneurs also underestimate the importance of insuring their business," according to MacDonald. "All entrepreneurs should consider their insurance needs carefully to protect themselves and their business against workplace accidents, theft, property damage and other calamities."

• Not understanding your target market.

Understand everything you can about your customer. Get market research reports on their demographics, preferences, geographic distribution, and disposable income. You need to understand the needs of the market before going ahead with your product or service. During a period of recession it might not be the right time to start a high-end retail operation, but what about credit counselling?

• Underestimating time and personal commitment involved in starting your own business.

Most small business owners work more hours for themselves than they ever did for someone else.

• Overestimating your abilities.

Perform a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats analysis on yourself. What are your strengths and weaknesses? Be clear about what you can and cannot do for the business and hire, or seek advice from, people who can help the areas in which you are weaker.

NEWS CANADA

Myths about biz

• "Entrepreneurs make a lot of money." You may earn less than your employed friends in the first few years, but after that you'll enjoy a much larger earning potential.

• "It takes plenty of money to start a business." Some very successful businesses are launched with just a few hundred dollars. Others may cost millions.

• "You can lose everything." Entrepreneurship does carry financial and emotional risks. Smart business owners protect themselves by protecting their personal and business assets and spending less than what they earn.

• "You have to be ruthless to succeed." While that may be true for big business, small business owners make their own rules and typically operate with high levels of integrity, trust, honesty and fairness.

NEWS CANADA

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Stronger dose of diabetes drug
A stronger, once-a-week injection of an existing diabetes drug seems to lower blood sugar better and with fewer side effects than the original twice-daily dose, according to a study released yesterday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Health

Care for skin and hair naturally

Be gentle on your skin and the environment with Organic Surge, a U.K. line of natural skin- and hair-care products, now available in Canada. The line comes in a variety of natural scents and features shower gels, shampoos, conditioners, intensive hair treatments, hand washes and hand lotions from $4.99 to $9.99 (sold exclusively at Shoppers Drug Mart). What's more, the sale of these items help support childcare programs in African communities. METRO NEWS SERVICE

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE COLACINO, ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Protect skin during pregnancy

Many skin-care lines now aimed at mothers

VERONICA BOODHAN
for Metro Canada

Pampering yourself may not be your first priority when expecting a baby. But taking proper care of your skin during pregnancy is proving to make a lasting impression.

An emerging trend in skin care is products targeted at expectant mothers. The ingredients focus on many of the skin issues faced by pregnant women, ranging from dry and itchy skin to stretch marks and acne.

Beth Witkowski, brand manager for Curel, emphasizes the need for pregnant women to improve their skin-care regimen.

"As women are moving through these milestones, it's typically time they turn away from the regular brand of moisturizer and start looking for something that's just going to work better."

According to Witkowski, Curel's Pregnancy and Motherhood moisturizer includes a higher concentration of moisturizing ingredients, including shea butter and vitamin E, as well as collagen and elastin. The ingredients are used to help reduce the appearance of stretch marks as well as increase skin's elasticity.

While the benefits of skin-care products for pregnant women can be seen on the outside, the effects on the inside are not always known.

The risk of dry, itchy skin and stretch marks is heightened for women during pregnancy. Consider the many skin-care lines that are targeted at expectant mothers.

Annette Rubin, CEO and co-founder of Belli, a skin-care line for mothers, stresses the effects that regular skin-care products may have on a pregnant woman's developing fetus. Her husband and co-founder, Dr. Jason Rubin, focuses on teratology screening, a process used to detect harmful ingredients. According to the founders, any materials that have even one link to potential birth defects are not used in their products.

"During pregnancy, any chemicals that get absorbed also circulate around the baby's bloodstream, so it's hard to say exactly how much of the chemical is exposed to the baby. But during pregnancy you really have to be a lot more cautious about what you're putting on your skin," said Dr. Rubin.

According to Toronto dermatologist Dr. Benjamin Barankin, one product pregnant women should be particularly meticulous about is sunscreen.

"Being much more diligent with sunscreen, especially on the face, is very important with melasma prevention," says Dr. Barankin. Melasma is a dark facial skin discolouration caused by the combination of estrogen hormones during pregnancy and sun exposure.

While women can experience similar skin conditions after pregnancy, some brands have expanded their lines to include products for all women.

Tanya Mackay, co-founder of Mama Mio, a skin-care line geared towards expectant mothers, also offers products to help with various skin-care issues, including dry skin, scars and sagging breasts. The products contain Omega-3, 6 and 9 fatty acids, which help boost skin vitality.

Whatever product you decide is best for you, Mackay suggests choosing something that is not only beneficial for skin but something you enjoy using.

"In life, there are so many things you have to do. So many things you feel like you should do. We want the products to feel like something you want to do and you love to do," said Mackay.

Left to right: Curel Life Stages Pregnancy and Motherhood, $9.99, Shoppers Drug Mart; Mama Mio O-Mega Body Oil, $35, the Bay; Belli Elasticity Belly Oil, $42, Pottery Barn Kids; Mama Mio Boob Tube, $38, the Bay.

Things to avoid

- According to Toronto dermatologist Dr. Benjamin Barankin, things to avoid completely during pregnancy include anti-aging products, prescription vitamin A and retinol. The use of tar-based products should also be avoided to help protect the fetus.

VERONICA BOODHAN/ FOR METRO CANADA

Diet & Diabetes Research Study
St. Michael's Hospital

We wish to study the potential benefits of nuts to reduce blood sugar in a 3-month research study at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. Participants are sought in the Toronto area, who are in good health, take tablets for diabetes (but not insulin) and want to improve their blood sugars by taking diet seriously.

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Brisk walking linked to improved memory

Brisk walking led to slight improvements on mental tests for older people with memory problems in what is billed as the first rigorous test of exercise on the aging brain. The results were from a small Australian study. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Health in brief

BREAST CANCER A radioactive tracer that "lights up" cancer hiding inside dense breasts showed promise in its first big test against mammograms, revealing more tumours and giving fewer false alarms, doctors reported recently.

The experimental method — molecular breast imaging, or MBI — would not replace mammograms for women at average risk of the disease.

But it might become an additional tool for higher-risk women with a lot of dense tissue that makes tumours hard to spot on mammograms, and it could be done at less cost than an MRI, or magnetic resonance imaging.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Green grooming

The shift to natural and organic body-care products

From buying local or organic to using reusable totes to bag goods, the shift toward eco-conscious consumption continues to gain momentum, and the evolving landscape of the supermarket is no exception.

"I don't know if it's Al Gore or it's just this alignment of the planets, but the last two or three years have just seen this huge spike."
Bob MacLeod, co-founder of Kiss My Face

Left to right: Pure Olive Oil Bar Soap, Peppermint Foot Scrub and Grapefruit and Bergamot Liquid Soap, all produced by Kiss My Face, a natural body-care company. Producers of natural and organic cosmetics are banking on a green shift.

But will transitioning from the produce department to the beauty aisle be the next move for consumers seeking to become more environmentally friendly?

Producers of natural and organic personal-care products are banking on it, creating items from shampoos to shower gels that infuse a little green into grooming.

Canadian-born Bob MacLeod and partner, Steve Byckiewicz, co-founders of Kiss My Face, were among the early innovators of earth-friendly cosmetics.

What started with selling olive oil soap has become big business for the New York-based duo's natural body-care company, which offers more than 200 products, including organic facial care, shampoos and lotions, and a new line for children free of parabens, artificial colours and fragrances.

While Kiss My Face has been in business for more than two decades, MacLeod, a native of Fredericton, said during a recent visit to Toronto there has been a noticeable surge in interest recently in natural personal-care products, and that concern about the environment has been "the tipping point."

"I don't know if it's Al Gore or it's just this alignment of the planets, but the last two or three years have just seen this huge spike," said MacLeod, referring to the former U.S. vice-president and his crusade against climate change.

Provided that they are kept out of direct sunlight and under normal conditions, Kiss My Face products have a shelf life of up to two years after being opened.

Alain Menard and his wife, Karen Clark, decided to transition toward using natural products more than a decade ago, but the lack of availability back then didn't make it easy.

"It was difficult to find even organic food," he recalled. "It's really come around. It's unbelievable."

Menard, a microbiologist, and Clark, a biochemist who worked in pesticides, had concerns about the chemicals used in personal-care products.

Menard said while the shift had been a gradual one, the birth of their son, Joshua, now six, was "the clincher."

The couple, based in Hawkesbury, Ont., quit their jobs and started The Green Beaver Company five years ago, crafting formulas for locally made natural-care products sold in more than 1,000 stores.

Menard said he thinks part of the reason for the growing interest in natural products stems from concerns expressed by some about what's contained in conventional products.

"Before you would never question the ingredients in a cream or lotion, and now it's like, 'What is this chemical?'" he said. "And then there's studies coming out showing that these chemicals are linked to pretty bad stuff."

One such study cited by Menard that made headlines earlier this year was a small study that appeared in the February issue of the journal Pediatrics, which found baby shampoos, lotions and powders may expose infants to phthalates, which have been linked with possible reproductive problems.

The chemicals are found in many ordinary products, including cosmetics, toys, vinyl flooring and medical supplies, and are used to stabilize fragrances and make plastics flexible.

A Health Canada spokesperson said at the time no children's toiletry products currently sold in Canada list phthalates as ingredients.

But the regulatory body said it was conducting a study to determine whether even trace amounts of phthalates can be found in a variety of cosmetics, particularly fragrances used in soaps, shampoos and creams for infants.

Health Canada has established a Cosmetic Ingredients Hotlist containing prohibited or restricted ingredients to make the cosmetics industry aware of substances that may be of concern, and it is updated as new scientific data is made available.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the Net:

- Kiss My Face: *www.kissmyface.com*
- Green Beaver Company: *www.greenbeaver.com*

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Follow up care Many colon cancer patients aren't getting the screenings recommended after surgery to make sure the disease hasn't returned, new research shows. REUTERS

Flu shot overrated?

No reduction in mortality rates: Study

CELIA MILNE
for Metro Canada

Alberta researchers who studied the effects of the flu vaccination say the benefits of the shots require further study.

The flu shot does not reduce death rates in the elderly, according to a new study from the University of Alberta.

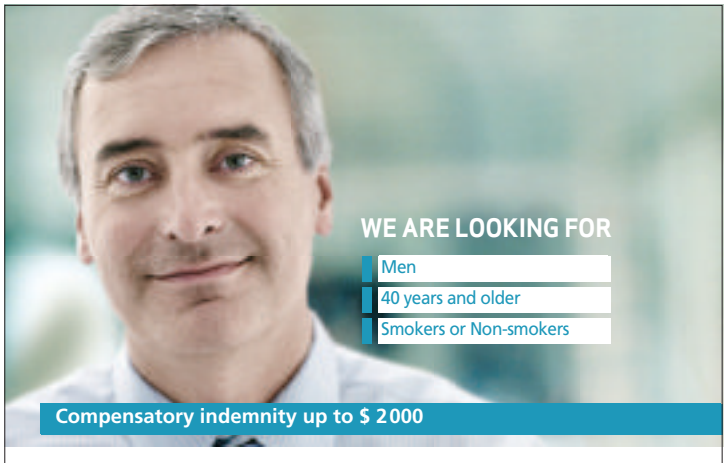
Researchers did a study of 704 elderly people, half of whom received the flu vaccination and half who didn't. At the end of the study — and after controlling for factors such as how healthy these people were to begin with — there appeared to be no reduction in mortality rates among the vaccinated group.

"At the moment there is not good evidence to suggest these vaccines are in fact reducing mortality in elderly patients," said Dr. Dean Eurich, assistant professor in the school of public health at the University of Alberta, one of the authors of the study. "We only looked at mortality rates in our paper. It seems to be over-inflated," he added.

While Dr. Eurich does not recommend any change to vaccination policies, he does suggest the benefits of flu shots require further study. "A lot of policies are in place because we believe the vaccine does reduce risk of mortality. If it is not doing what we want, we need better vaccines and better studies of our vaccines," he said.

The flu is risky for elderly people, the very young and those who are already sick. "If we can vaccinate health care workers, children and family caregivers, we can help stop the chain of transmission. It is still important for young people to get vaccinated, to help stop the spread to the elderly," said Dr. Eurich. He also suggested all of us wash our hands frequently and try to avoid getting infected and infecting others with the flu.

The study was published in a recent issue of the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine.



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Many of us know the anxiety of not being able to sleep. You turn and turn, while your thoughts keep you awake, and the stress starts to build, as you don't fall a sleep again. Ilene knew this feeling all too well and decided to try the new Melissa tablets.

Ilene had problems falling asleep and would usually wake up several times a night. "It was really frustrating lying in bed unable to sleep. Thoughts churn in your head and small problems seem enormous. And the next day I really had problems concentrating or getting anything done, simply because I was so tired."

Tried the new Melissa tablets

"As my sleep problem seemed to get worse with time, I looked into what could help. I read about Lemon Balm and how it can make you relax and sleep better. I went to my local health food store to get advice and they recommended a new Scandinavian product, called Melissa, which is a natural formula of extracts – among these Lemon balm and Chamomile."

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"Now I have used Melissa for a week and it works wonderfully. I feel fantastic. I take the tablets one hour before bedtime, and feel the relaxation after only 30 minutes. Falling asleep feels natural and I find my sleep is much deeper than before. It's an amazing feeling to wake up after a long night of sound sleep!"

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Melissa, from Scandinavian manufacturer New Nordic, is a new natural remedy for stress and sleep disorders. It's based on lemon balm, chamomile, l-theanine, magnesium and b-vitamins, which in studies have shown to increase deep relaxation, induce sleep and help obtain an undisturbed night of sleep. Melissa can be taken during the day, one tablet per main meal, for reduction of stress, or 2-3 tablets at once at night, to induce sleep.

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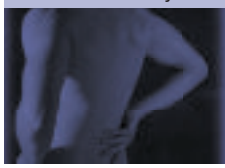

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A coffee or two a day ...

Java can protect against heart disease, study shows

CELIA MILNE
for Metro Canada

Let's go for a coffee! Drinking your daily cup of joe — or even several — may provide some protection against heart disease and even death, according to the latest large-scale study of coffee's health effects.

This is good news for the estimated 63 per cent of Canadians who drink coffee everyday.

Researchers in the U.S. and Spain examined data for 84,214 women who had participated in the Nurses' Health Study from 1980 to 2004. They also looked at a study of more than 40,000 men in the health professions, who were followed from 1986 to 2004. All women and men enrolled in the study were asked how much coffee they drank on a regular basis.

Scientists found that women who consumed more coffee were less likely to die during the 24 years of the study.

In fact, drinking two to three cups of coffee a day was associated with an 18 per cent reduction in death from all causes. This was mainly attributed to fewer cases of fatal heart disease. For men, the effect was the same, but not as dramatic.

Interpreting the results, Dr. Ahmed El-Sohemy (PhD), an associate professor in the department of nutritional sciences at the University of Toronto and a scientist at the Canadian Institutes for Health Research, says coffee is safe for the majority of people who metabolize it properly. "It is probably fine for most people in moderation; it would be prudent to limit yourself to two to three cups a day," he says.

The positive effect of java does not come from the caffeine, but actually from the antioxidants in the beverage, suggests Dr. El-Sohemy. Antioxidants are key nutrients — also found in fruits, vegetables, wine, tea, herbs and cocoa — which are known to be good for the heart. Drinking decaffeinated coffee is a good way to obtain antioxidants without consuming so much caffeine, he says.

The positive effect of java come from the antioxidants the beverage contains, suggests Dr. Ahmed El-Sohemy.

"It is probably fine for most people in moderation; it would be prudent to limit yourself to two to three cups a day."
Dr. Ahmed El-Sohemy

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Liver disease in fat children
In a new and disturbing twist on the obesity epidemic, some overweight teenagers have severe liver damage caused by too much body fat, and a handful have needed liver transplants. Many more may need a new liver by their 30s or 40s, say experts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

My love/hate for the Internet

HineSight

Anne Hines

It may be one of the key inventions of our time, but the Internet is also a huge source of frustration for many.

Over the past few years, everything that could possibly be written about the frustrations of using the Internet has been written. All I could do now would be to rant about things that have already been said before. So, I'm going to do that.

This past week, I've come across two newspaper articles highlighting downsides of using the Net. The first was about a woman in Eastern Canada who supposedly threatened to hold her Internet repairman hostage in her house until he got her connection working. This woman's actions shocked me. I had to ask, "Why didn't I think of that?"

The second article wondered if e-mail and text messaging are making us less sophisticated communicators. To this, I say, "Well, duh."

Without the Net, I would have had to pick up the phone and ask someone.

Mostly, we see new technology as a good thing. Having the Net means more leisure time. I was free to read these newspaper articles, for instance, because I was spending two hours on hold waiting to speak to my server's tech support.

When it comes to finding information, the Net has what we need when we need it. Yesterday, I was able to find the mailing address of my daughter's university residence simply by locating the main page, checking 18 links that went nowhere, entering 40 search word versions of "mail, address, residence, give-me-the-info-or-I'll-scream" and after 45 minutes, voila! Without the Net, I would have had to pick up the phone and ask someone.

But the question these articles raised is, "Is it worth it?"

This isn't a new question. Take, for example, one of the key inventions of human kind. The pointy stick. Previously, our ancestors heading out after woolly mammoths favoured the "hit-it-with-a-rock" method. This was not very efficient, but better than the "taunt-it-until-it-falls-over" tactic that came before that.

Still, the appearance of this wonder tool must have raised concerns. Would the practice of trying to down large animals with a blunt stick be lost (the answer: "Hopefully, yes")? Would the pointy stick be used only for good and not evil?

The fact is no innovation in history has ever been welcomed without concerns and misgivings. The only exceptions to this are, of course, indoor plumbing and the beer fridge.

So, considering it carefully, I would say that the truth about technology is this: It has good points and bad. Making it exactly like everything else.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.

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†Rock CL, et al. *Obesity*. 2007;15: 939-949.

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Butler would like to revisit 300 — but how?
Actor Gerard Butler would love to revisit his hit 300 movie, but has no idea how a prequel or a sequel would work. The star played Spartan king Leonidas in the 2006 hit. IMDB.COM

Entertainment

Last Pharaoh
Will Smith is reportedly set to fulfil one of his biggest ambitions — playing Egyptian pharaoh Taharqa on the big screen. Smith has been cast as the ancient ruler in The Last Pharaoh. IMDB.COM

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

Knowles puts on pounds for role

Beyoncé

MOVIES Beyoncé Knowles has been piling on the pounds to play jazz and blues great Etta James in new movie Cadillac Records, female first.co.uk reports.

The singer/actress has reportedly gained 20 pounds for the role, but said the hardest part of her transformation came when visited a drop-in centre for drug addicts in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Rowling wins copyright claim

BOOKS A judge ruled yesterday in favour of Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling in her copyright infringement lawsuit against a fan and website operator who was set to publish a Potter encyclopedia, The Associated Press reports.

U.S. District Judge Robert P. Patterson said Rowling had proven that Steven Vander Ark's Harry Potter Lexicon would cause her irreparable harm. He blocked publication of the guide and awarded Rowling and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. $6,750 US in damages. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Mix tape for Tricky fans

British artist revisits his roots

IAN NATHANSON
for Metro Canada

For a spell in the mid-1990s, Portishead, Massive Attack and Tricky were considered England's leaders of trip hop: Downtempo electronica that arose from the country's hip-hop and house scenes.

That Tricky's newest album, Knowle West Boy, in North American stores today, arrives in the same year that Portishead returns with its latest offering, Third, and Massive Attack works on new material for a future release should come as complete coincidence — and not, as the artist, a.k.a. Adrian Thaws, sees it, a trip hop revival.

"Those people followed my first solo album, Maxinquaye, in 1995 and then it formed into some kind of movement back then," says Tricky, a former Massive Attack member. "I was even told I created trip hop.

"Young artists have to be careful when getting involved in a movement. Because once it's over, you're over. It's safer not to be part of anything like that."

"Young artists have to be careful when getting involved in a movement. Because once it's over, you're over. It's safer not to be part of anything like that." Tricky

In the ensuing years, Tricky maintained a somewhat lower profile living in New York and Los Angeles while collaborating with the likes of Björk, Alanis Morissette, Nelly Furtado, Elvis Costello, Red Hot Chili Peppers and Tool. Although he released another half-dozen albums, none have matched Maxinquaye's super-praised success — prompting David Bowie to pen a 2,000-word fan-worship story for British music mag Q.

"That was very weird for me," Tricky, now 40, says. "I never met the guy. But here I was in London picking up a magazine that had him writing about me. It blew me away — very surreal."

Tricky admits he never dealt with the whole fame thing very well and, since leaving Britain in the late 1990s, probably partied a tad more than he should have. But much of his own turmoil stemmed from his struggles with candida — a condition best described as extreme yeast and sugar intolerance.

Knowle West Boy, the new album from Tricky, is now available in stores.

In concert

• Tricky performs tonight at the Phoenix, the same day his new album, Knowle West Boy, hits stores.

"It messes up your skin as well as your mind. It causes depression, makes you very angry and because of the way I treated certain people, it really screwed up my relationships," explains Tricky, adding the condition is now kept under control through a strict diet and exercise regimen.

Knowle West Boy finds Tricky lyrically revisiting the Bristol, England, neighbourhood where he grew up through a mélange of blues, ska, hip hop, post-punk and rock.

"It's like a mix tape thank you to all my fans," Tricky says. "It's sort of my way of giving back to the people."

In brief

CASTING Girls Gone Wild founder Joe Francis has been dropped from Donald Trump's hit reality TV show Celebrity Apprentice, imdb.com reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Seal on Stone

ABC's Eli Stone has lined up its next musical guest. Soulful crooner Seal is set to appear on the series, playing himself in a late-October or early-November episode. TVGUIDE.COM

Reality TV creating its own rich and famous

When Jon Dalton was discovered by a Survivor casting agent at an L.A. gas station several years ago, the chance to win a million dollars wasn't the prize he most desired.

Instead he relished the chance to showcase Jonny Fairplay, an immoral jerk persona he developed during his time as a manager in professional wrestling.

Fairplay became a hated household name among reality TV audiences, mainly because he lied on air that his grandmother had just died to earn other competitors' sympathies. Catcalling audiences at a reality TV awards show in October seemed to cheer when Danny Bonaduce dropped Dalton on his face onstage, breaking several teeth.

Dalton has sued Bonaduce for battery. But Dalton says, despite the sometimes painful side effects of celebrity, being roundly despised has helped him earn him a six-figure annual income.

Dalton said he regularly receives $2,000 to $15,000 to appear at nightclubs and conventions and on other TV shows, partly to satisfy curiosity about whether he's really a jerk in person. It's an income that has bought him a three-bedroom house in his hometown of Danville, Va., and the ability to care for his wife and baby daughter.

"I feel personally that I raped reality television and I'm happy about that," Dalton, 34, said. "The million dollars was never my primary goal."

Increasingly, reality TV shows are no longer just voyeuristic journeys into the failings of real people, but launching pads for fame-seekers looking to parlay publicity into a career.

At a recent open casting call in Costa Mesa, Calif., a shot at fame drove a throng of wannabes to brave the hot sun for the chance to audition for Survivor, season 18.

"I want to walk down the street or in the mall and have someone come after me and ask for my autograph," said Shane Cardenes, a 37-year-old high school softball coach from Lake Elsinore, Calif.

Regular Joes who get a taste of the fawning attention of camera crews usually don't want to return to their boring former life, said Survivor casting director Lynne Spillman.

"More and more people are applying because they want to be on TV," Spillman said. It's rare for participants not to try to extend their 15 minutes of fame, she said. "They see it as easy money." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RIC FRANCIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brandon Roesler, 25, auditions for the CBS reality show Survivor in Costa Mesa, Calif., in June.

Greenpeace nets De Niro for selling endangered tuna

PEOPLE Robert De Niro has come under fire from environmental activists for allegedly serving endangered fish at his restaurant chain Nobu, imdb.com reports.

Robert De Niro

Three of the actor's celebrity hotspot restaurants in London have been slammed by planet-friendly group Greenpeace after activists caught the eateries allegedly serving Atlantic bluefin tuna while failing to note the species in menus. The fish is so endangered the World Wildlife Fund has called for a ban on its sale, though it remains legal in restaurants despite reports of near extinction.

"Nobu and Robert De Niro are clearly making a great deal of money serving up endangered fish," a Greenpeace spokesperson says.

A spokesperson for the New York branches of the restaurant did not return calls. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Chef Beckham
Victoria Beckham is setting up a restaurant with chef Gordon Ramsay in Los Angeles. DAILY MIRROR

ALBERTO E. RODRIGUEZ/GETTY IMAGES

Directors Joel, left, and Ethan Coen arrive at the premiere of Burn After Reading during the 2008 Toronto International Film Festival.

Coens return to Minnesota

Brothers to film their first movie there since 1996's Fargo

The Oscar-winning Coen brothers are returning to their home state of Minnesota to shoot their next movie.

Joel and Ethan Coen were scheduled yesterday to start shooting A Serious Man in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area.

The movie — about a professor whose life is falling apart — is set in 1967 in an unspecified suburb similar to St. Louis Park, where the Coens grew up.

It's the first time the Coens have filmed in Minnesota since 1996's Fargo.

The directing pair were at the Toronto International Film Festival over the weekend to talk up their new film, Burn After Reading, which stars Brad Pitt, George Clooney, Tilda Swinton and John Malkovich.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Actor Coleman involved in Utah accident, police say

LEGAL Authorities in Utah say a truck driven by actor Gary Coleman hit a man on his foot after the two argued in a bowling alley.

Police say Coleman and Colt Rushton argued over pictures Rushton was taking inside the bowling alley in the town of Payson, Utah.

They say Coleman was backing out of a parking spot after midnight Saturday when he hit Rushton.

It is unclear whether Coleman hit the man on purpose. Police didn't issue any citations to either man.

Rushton was treated for minor injuries.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TODD WILLIAMSON/GETTY IMAGES

Gary Coleman

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Homegirl
Welsh singer Duffy has revealed she couldn't live in New York City because she'd miss her mom. DAILY MIRROR

DVD picks

Baby Mama
Director: Michael McCullers
Rating: PG

TINA FEY and Amy Poehler team up for a Hollywood rarity, a female buddy flick that actually found an audience. Fey plays a business executive who can't have kids but decides she desperately wants a child, and so is paired with a surrogate mother (Poehler) who behaves like a juvenile herself. A stellar supporting cast is highlighted by Sigourney Weaver, Steve Martin, Greg Kinnear and Romany Malco.

The DVD and Blu-ray release come with an alternate ending and other deleted scenes and a couple of behind-the-scenes featurettes with cast and crew interviews. Fey and Poehler also join writer-director Michael McCullers and producer Lorne Michaels for commentary.

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The Forbidden Kingdom
Director: Rob Minkoff
Rating: PG

MARTIAL ARTS superstars Jackie Chan and Jet Li join forces for the first time with this fantasy adventure set in ancient China. The movie casts a modern teenager (Michael Angarano) back in time, where he is trained by Chan and Li to fulfil his destiny by stopping an evil warlord.

The movie comes in a single-disc DVD with just the movie or two-disc DVD and Blu-ray sets that include deleted scenes with commentary from director Rob Minkoff, who also offers commentary for the full film.

Other extras include a "Kung Fu Dream Team" featurette on the matchup of Chan and Li, along with segments on shooting in China.

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The Fall
Director: Tarsem Singh
Rating: R

THIS AMBITIOUS visual marvel took four years to shoot in 18 different countries, presenting a series of globe-trotting fantasy adventures that spring to life from the tales told by a hospitalized stuntman (Lee Pace) to cheer up a five-year-old girl who's a fellow patient back in the early days of Hollywood. The DVD and Blu-ray discs have deleted footage, two making-of featurettes and two commentary tracks, one with Pace and one with director and co-writer Tarsem.

The Blu-ray release also includes a gallery of photos from the film.

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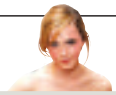

Gimme shelter

Harry Potter star Emma Watson has bought a ski chalet for $1.7 million in the popular resort of Meribel, France. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Colbert to have his DNA sent into space

Should this world ever cease to exist, Stephen Colbert will live on.

Yesterday, Comedy Central announced plans to digitize the comedian's DNA and send it to the International Space Station.

In October, video game designer Richard Garriott will travel to the station and deposit Colbert's genes for an Immortality Drive.

Garriott, one of few private citizens to travel into space, is collecting material for a time capsule of human DNA, a history of humanity's greatest achievements and personal messages.

The host of The Colbert Report will essentially be preserved so that aliens can clone him.

Garriott said there are few better candidates to turn to in the unlikely event that humanity is destroyed and needs to be resurrected.

"I am thrilled to have my DNA shot into space, as this brings me one step closer to my lifelong dream of being the baby at the end of 2001," Colbert said in a statement, referring to the 1968 landmark science fiction film 2001: A Space Odyssey.

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Steven Colbert's DNA will soon be sent into space.

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TV dreams
Singer LeAnn Rimes dreams of being approached about starring in the hit drama Gossip Girl because her husband is obsessed with it. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Fringe isn't long for this world

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

Out there: Fringe, one of the most eagerly anticipated new shows of the season, debuts tonight on CTV, the A Channel, Access (in Alberta) and Fox, and creator J.J. Abrams expressed his anxiety about his latest work in an interview with the Onion's A.V. Club last week. "It's a cocktail of excited for people to see it, terror that no one will watch it, and relief that something I've been working on for so long will finally be out there," he said.

Abrams is the man behind Lost, Alias and Felicity, and the director of Cloverfield, Mission: Impossible III and the next Star Trek movie. He's at, what no one would dispute, the top of his game in Hollywood, and Fringe is exactly what his audience expects — an eerie procedural thriller about shadowy government agencies, sinister conspiracies and nutjob quack science, wrapped in feature movie production values.

The show stars Anna Torv as an FBI agent sucked into a vortex of weird crap, like a plane full of passengers with their skin in puddles on the floor, and Joshua Jackson plays the ne'er-do-well son of a mad genius she has to spring from the madhouse to help her find out who's turning people into Jell-O. And, yes, you can be excused if you're thinking X-Files.

Abrams has only written two episodes, according to imdb.com, and his Star Trek duties have kept him out of the director's chair, but he told the Onion that he wants to direct "maybe a season finale or a season opener or something. I've been wanting to do it since the pilot. We have great directors working on Fringe, but when someone else directs something that you're involved with, it's always their vision, and the director in my head is definitely wanting to get involved."

Based on the debut episode, Abrams might want to get involved a bit earlier. After the airliner opening, the pace dissolves like Alka-Seltzer, despite the breakneck introduction of characters and plot points. The dialogue is dreadful — Torv and Jackson's delivery don't help sell it — and considering that Fringe is on axe-happy Fox, Abrams had better move fast if he wants to get his shot.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

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		211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Big Brother 10 (N)		90210 "Lucky Strike" (N)		In Plain Sight (N)		News (N)
		215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
		210	302	6	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	22 Minutes	The Tudors (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
		214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Biography "Sharon Osbourne"		Privileged "Pilot" (N)		NY-Hollywood	Friends	News (N)
		212	313	8	CTV	eTalk	Hollywood	Fringe "Pilot" (N)			eTalk Idol	Law & Order: SVU		News (N)
		218	345	11	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	To Be Announced		Fashion Rocks (N)				News (N)
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		-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Big Brother 10 (N)		Fashion Rocks (N)				News (N)
		-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	America's Got Talent (Live)				Law & Order: SVU		News
		-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Wipeout (N)		Wipeout (N)		Primetime (HDTV)		News
		219	346	20	ACH-B	Robson Arms	TMZ (N)	Fringe "Pilot" (N)			Hole in Wall	Supernanny		News (N)
		-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	Fringe "Pilot" (N)			Hole in Wall	Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
		-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Keeping Up	America's Generations: The Boomers			Rain: The Beatles Experience			Business Rpt.
		297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	90210 "Lucky Strike" (N)		Privileged "Pilot" (N)		CW11 News at Ten		Two/Half Men
		296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil		WBZ News (N)	'70s Show	Frasier	Frasier	Cheers
		298	653	332	TLA	Reba	Reba	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	90210 (N)
		502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Newman	The Hour		CBC News: The National		Wal-Mart Nation		National
		500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
		509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow & Company		On the Money		The Business of Innovation		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
		405	417	22	net	Darts World Premier League.				Best Damn Sports Show		Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet Con.
		400	400	30	TSN	2008 World Series of Poker		MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at Chicago White Sox. (HDTV) (Live)						SportsCentre
		411	457	58	OLN	Ed's Up	Videos	Survivorman		Angry Planet	Surf Patrol	Don't Forget Your Passport		Pilot Guides
		417	406	81	SC	Pinks (HDTV)	Pass Time	Unique Whips		Low Life	SuperCars	Super Bikes!	Super Bikes!	Pinks (HDTV)
		551	542	25	YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Home Improve.	Prank Patrol	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Adrenaline Proj	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.
		554	544	45	TEL	George-Jungle	Bugs Bunny & Tweety Show		6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	American Dad	Robot Chicken	Rick & Steve
		556	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
		602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Coleen's Real Women		Style by Jury	Style by Jury	How to Look Good Naked (N)		Maxed Out
		570	580	29	MM	Instant Star	disBand	Instant Star	Instant Star	Instant Star	Instant Star	Instant Star	Instant Star	The Shift
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		571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Where You At	Fleetwood Mac -- Rumours		Listed (Part 1 of 2)		Rock the Cradle		Party of Five
		575	583	38	CMT	Canada Countdown		Canadian Country Music Awards				CMT at the 2008 CCMA's (N)		Awards
		616	521	39	SHO	About a Girl	About a Girl	The Best Years (DVS)		Trailer Park	Trailer Park	The Shield (N)		House
		620	523	40	BVO	Desperate Housewives		Live at the Rehearsal Hall		To Dublin With Love		Celtic Roots	Irish Music	Law & Order
		601	562	41	SLC	End of Leash	ET Canada	Newlywed	In Laws	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Plastic-Perfect	Matchmaker	Newlywed
		522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "Witch Hunt"		The Worst Jobs in History		Tony's Law		NCIS "Witch Hunt"		Crime Stories
		625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	S. Silverman	Jon Dore Show	Daily Show
		600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Dirty Business	Outside	Colin & Justin's Home Heist		The Stagers	Green Force	Holmes-Homes
		294	529	47	TBS	MLB Baseball Colorado Rockies at Atlanta Braves. (HDTV) From Turner Field in Atlanta. (Live)						Family Guy	Family Guy	Seinfeld
		576	582	49	BET	106 & Park	*ATL* ★★ (2006, Comedy-Drama) Tip "T.I." Harris, Mykelti Williamson.						Somebodies	Somebodies	Comic View
		627	528	50	SPC	Lost "Pilot" (Part 2 of 2)		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Battlestar Galactica		Comic-Con-fidential		Stargate SG-1
		581	566	52	MTV	Busted	After	Canada's Next Top Model		Making the Band 4		From G's to Gents		MTV Live
		618	524	54	TROP	Beverly Hills, 90210		Planet Soap	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	King	Family Guy
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		261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Bless-Father	On the Buses	Quantum Leap		Painted Nation		MythQuest
		621	527	63	STR	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		TMZ (N)	eTalk	Live at eTalk	Live at eTalk	The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ
		553	546	65	TRE	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Nght Grdn	Bucket-Dinos	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
		115	711	101	TVA	Km/h (SC)	Vidéos	Histoires-filles	Caméra café	La Promesse (HDTV) (N) (SC)		TVA 22 heures	(10:45) Denis Lévesque (N)	
		126	730	102	RDI	RDI en direct sur l'actualité		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		Le Club des ex	Le National	Le Téléjournal
		526	507	249	CLT	Judging Amy "Kilt Trip"		True Murder	True Murder	Missing Link		Mysterious Ways		Judging Amy
		300	601	301	M1	*Alpha Dog* ★★ (2006, Crime Drama) Bruce Willis.				*Letters From Iwo Jima* ★★★★ (2006, War) Ken Watanabe.				
		305	612	306	PIX	*Jericho Mans.*	(7:20) *High Explosive* (2000, Action)			*The Adventures of Ford Fairlane* (1990)				(10:45) *Buster's Bedroom*

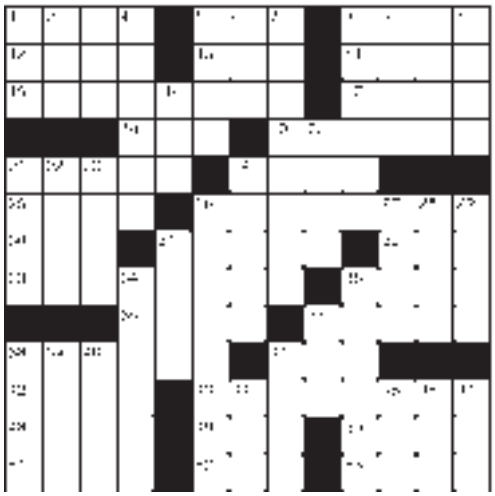
critics' corner

Adventures of Ford Fairlane
Gilbert Gottfried dies. That's about all this low — very low — comedy vehicle for Andrew Dice Clay has going for it. The foul-mouthed comedian has the title role of a "rock 'n' roll private detective" looking for the long-lost daughter of Gottfried's character. So much for plot; this flick is just a delivery system for a string of juvenile jokes and Diceman's trademark shock humor, which was already getting old when the movie came out. 12 PM on PIX

Letters From Iwo Jima
It's nice to live in a time when alternate points of view can be learned by the general population. Directed by Clint Eastwood, this 2006 story of World War II is told from the perspective of "the enemy" — one a high-ranking officer, the other a poor soldier. The great Ken Watanabe, Kazunari Ninomiya, Ryo Kase, Hiroshi Watanabe and Yuki Matsuzaki star. 9 PM on M1

Boycotting his own show
Lost star Alan Dale reportedly stopped watching his own show during its third season because he "got sick" of its repetitive script and outlandish storylines. IMDB.COM

Take Five



Crossword down

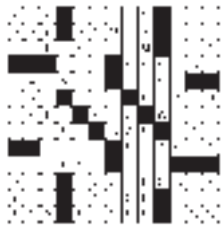
1 Knock
2 "— Town"
3 Consumed
4 Multicoloured
5 Ethereal
6 Japanese pond carp
7 Huge boa
8 False
9 Grad
10 Sidewalk edge
11 Hollywood clashers
16 Rowboat need
20 Colonial sewer
21 Wheel connector
22 Herr's wife
23 Pack down
24 Spirit in a bottle
26 Jeff Probst's show
27 Raise up
28 Busy with
29 Mideast gulf
31 Baby horse
34 Wellness
35 "Heavens!"
37 Witticism
38 Saharan
39 Sax-playing Simpson
40 Kesey and Olin
41 Con job
44 "— Got a Secret"
45 Caviar, essentially
46 11-Down counterparts
47 Request

Find today's answer and play more games online at metronews.ca

Crossword across

1 Wander
5 Alias abbr.
8 Wear a rut in the rug
12 Ford or Lincoln
13 Charged bit
14 Punch
15 South African city
17 Franc replacement
18 Deposit
19 Hansel and Gretel's trail
21 Subsequently
24 Acceptable
25 MRI forerunner
26 Brain's stimulus receptors
30 Felon's flight
31 Money
32 Conclude
33 Happiness, plus
35 Partner
36 Roof overhang
37 Long-popular comedian Cohen
38 High-pH chemical
41 Boar's companion
42 Cambodian money
43 Capital of British Columbia
48 "— It Romantic?"
49 Eggs
50 Fishing gear
51 Morse symbol
52 Sleep phenom
53 Dilbert's place

previous day's answer



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Don't make a fool of anyone. An analyst forces you to detach yourself from a grouch. Someone is using you as a scapegoat.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Doubt is cast on a bad decision. Stay home and ponder your life if a wicked statement is made. Insurmountable obstacles will be conquered.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You'll become a force to be reckoned with. An adventure causes a discussion to take place. A potential partner is ready and willing.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Let go when hurt feelings run through your mind. Refuse to underestimate your power. A stroke of luck leads to excitement.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
The countdown to a disagreement begins. It's time to be bold with an incompetent man. An alliance takes on an exciting importance.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A cherished leader can cause a revolution. A buddy's need for security is obvious. Refuse to waste your time with fools.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A new friend brings about a change in direction. Be passionate about your faith in humanity. You can ask for favours from a relative.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
Someone will decide what's best for you. A companion will inspire thoughts of generosity. Don't fall in love with a selfish person.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
You'll dream of being with a compassionate person. A caller is too animated for comfort. Unusual words will cause brief difficulties.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
An agreement may cause you to be feared. Be happy about being at the controls. Your actions may lead to an insight.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
A chaotic situation will clear up. Take someone for a walk if you want to talk. Pushy people have lost their former charm.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Take command in a disputed matter. A dedicated person will experience neglect and spoil certain plans. Love strengthens your commitment.

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Sudoku

			4	5		9	7	1
				7			3	6
		6				2		
1			5				8	
		9				4		
	8				3			2
		4				8		
2	9			6				
3	7	5		1	8			

HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU:
The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

previous day's answer

6	4	7	5	1	3	8	9	2
9	1	2	8	4	6	3	5	7
8	3	5	7	9	2	6	4	1
4	9	1	3	6	7	2	8	5
7	2	8	9	5	1	4	3	6
5	6	3	4	2	8	1	7	9
1	8	4	6	7	5	9	2	3
3	5	6	2	8	9	7	1	4
2	7	9	1	3	4	5	6	8

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min . . . . . Genius
13-17 min. . . . . Scholar
17-21 min . . . . . Smart
21-25 min . . . . . Not bad
25+ min . . . . Keep practising

Today's answer and play more games at metronews.ca

Toronto weather

The Weather Network
theweathernetwork.com

Afternoon	Tonight	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Variable. 17°	Clear. 9°	Sunny. 18°/ 11°	Variable. 21°/ 16°	90% Rain. 23°/ 16°

Temperature
Normals
High: 23.6°
Low: 11.3°

Records
High: 33.9°/1959
Low: 2.9°/1979

Sunrise: 6:51 a.m.
Sunset: 7:38 p.m.
Moonset: 12:26 a.m.
Moonrise: 4:47 p.m.

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Dancing baby
Dancing with the Stars pro Tony Dovolani and his wife, Lina, welcomed a boy and a girl, Adrian Driton Dovolani and Adriana Dovolani, early yesterday at a hospital near their Connecticut home. PEOPLE.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Watts prefers women

PEOPLE Actress Naomi Watts prefers filming love scenes with women because she feels no "sexual tension" with them, imdb.com reports.

Watts, who shared a same-sex kiss with Laura Harring in 2001 movie Mulholland Drive, insists she is more at ease filming intimate scenes with women than men.

"The easiest sex scene I have done was in Mulholland Drive. That's because it was with another woman," she says. "There was no awkwardness and there was no sexual tension." METRO NEWS SERVICES

It's twins for Wentz, Simpson, pal says

CHILDREN Ashlee Simpson is reportedly expecting twins with husband Pete Wentz, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 23-year-old singer and her Fall Out Boy rocker beau are set to welcome two babies into the world later this year, according to Pete's musician friend Tyga.

"Pete and Ashlee are having twins. They're really happy," hip-hop star Tyga told gossip website E! Online.

This is not the first time it has been claimed the couple are expecting two bundles of joy.

In June, Pete, 29, accidentally referred to the baby as "them" during a radio interview, causing fans worldwide to speculate Ashlee is carrying twins. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Doherty pines for Moss

PEOPLE Pete Doherty still loves Kate Moss, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The Babyshambles rocker, who split from the supermodel more than a year ago, realizes he will never win Moss back but admits he would be overcome if she ever attempted a reconciliation.

"It's over," he said. "But whether or not I'm over it, I'm not sure. It's so hard talking about someone you love after you have split up.

"It's painful to rake up those old emotions. Today I'll say I'm over it but if she walked in and shouted, 'Let's go,' I don't really know what I'd do.

"I'd go, but not with her. I would just go and cry somewhere. It's over. It's gone." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sparks fly after Brand makes purity joke

MTV AWARDS Russell Brand angered American Idol champ Jordin Sparks when he made fun of purity rings at Sunday's 2008 MTV Video Music Awards, usmagazine.com reports. During his opening monologue, Brand (a confessed former sex addict) repeatedly joked about the Jonas Brothers' purity rings, saying they should take advantage of their celeb status to get lucky. Before introducing T.I., Sparks — who has been open about wearing a purity ring — slammed the comedian for making the remark. "I just wanna say, it's not bad to wear a promise ring because not every guy and a girl wants to be a slut, OK?" she told the audience. Brand later clarified his joke.

"I didn't mean to take it lightly," he said. Later, he added, "Promise rings, I'm well up for it. (But) a bit of sex, it never hurt anybody." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Britney mad at mom

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

FAMILY RIFT Britney Spears is said to be "furious" with her mother, Lynne, after she detailed her daughter's past in her memoir, Through the Storm, Page-Six.com reports. The book blames all of Britney's problems on her daughter's former managers. Spears — who already considered her mother a siphon on her purse — is "upset" about the book, sources said, especially when she feels Lynne herself caused so many of her problems and issues. Spears is now only talking to her father, Jamie, who, as her conservator and guardian, has cleaned up her affairs and put his daughter back on the straight and narrow. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Wedding bells for Bedingfield

MARRIAGE Natasha Bedingfield is ready to walk down the aisle, People.com reports.

The pop singer, 26, just got engaged to her boyfriend Matthew Robinson. "It just happened," she said. "But I am so excited, and it happened in New York. And I want to share it with the world."

She added: "We haven't thought about a date. We're just celebrating. I'm the luckiest girl in the world." METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity briefs

Mills reneged on charity?

MONEY Heather Mills may have failed to hand over a multimillion-dollar charity donation, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The former model vowed to give "a large majority" of her $42-million divorce payment from Sir Paul McCartney to the Adopt-A-Minefield organization, of which she is a patron, but charity sources claim they haven't received anything.

"They have waited in vain for their millions. She's had plenty of time," a source said. Mills made the donation pledge in 2006, during divorce proceedings from the former Beatles star. "Around 80 per cent of my money goes to charity," she also added in a recent interview. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Back to school for Turlington

PEOPLE Former supermodel Christy Turlington will turn her back on fashion and head to college, imdb.com reports.The one-time catwalk queen is planning to study maternal and child health at Columbia University, according to the New York Daily News. Turlington, who has two children with actor husband Ed Burns, is passionate about maternal care and is an ambassador for humanitarian organization CARE (Christian Action Research and Education).

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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